

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO REFORM THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two bills which reflect our continued efforts to make the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) applicable to today's workforce. The FLSA is one of the most outdated workplace regulatory schemes faced by businesses and employees. As the primary statute governing the payment of wages and hours of work, the FLSA has changed little since it was enacted in 1938.

In today's business environment, employers and employees must find ways to compete and meet the challenges of an increasingly competitive and global economy. Government should be user-friendly, less confrontational, and less costly. The regulatory scheme must be designed to be flexible to accommodate different situations and future challenges. The demographics of the workforce and the characteristics of jobs have changed dramatically over the past 60 years. But, the FLSA has not kept pace with these changes and it now stands out as being rigid and inflexible for today's work styles and work arrangements.

The two bills that I am introducing today will update areas of the FLSA which regulate scheduling and compensation. Currently, the FLSA does not allow private sector employers to give their employees the choice of compensatory time off in lieu of overtime wages. The first bill, "The Working Families Flexibility Act of 1999," would give private sector employers and employees an option which Federal, State, and local governments have had for many years—the choice of "comp time" in lieu of overtime pay. The legislation is identical to that which the House passed during the 105th Congress.

The Working Families Flexibility Act answers the call of many workers for increased flexibility and choices in the workplace. Many employees are finding it increasingly difficult to find enough time for important family obligations or outside interests, which makes receiving comp time instead of cash overtime an attractive option.

Many employers who want to be family-friendly find that flexible scheduling can be extremely difficult for employees who are paid by the hour and covered by the overtime provisions in the FLSA. Suppose an employee has a terminally ill parent who lives several states away. Days off with pay can become precious for that employee when a 2-day weekend does not provide enough time to travel and spend time with that parent. When that employee works a few hours of overtime each week, he or she may prefer to be paid with time off rather than with cash wages. If the individual is employed in the public sector, then he or she would have the choice of receiving

paid time off in lieu of cash wages for overtime hours worked. However, under current Federal law, if the individual is employed in the private sector then he or she cannot choose paid time off, even if that form of compensation is preferred.

The Working Families Flexibility Act would allow employers to make comp time available as an option for employees. Employees would have the choice, through an agreement with the employer, to take overtime pay in the form of paid time off. As with overtime pay, comp time hours would accrue at a rate of one and one-half hours of comp time for each hour of overtime worked. In response to concerns about employees being coerced by employers into choosing comp time over cash wages, the legislation includes numerous protections to ensure that employees cannot be pressured into one choice or the other.

Employees could accrue up to 160 hours of comp time within a 12-month period. The legislation would require the employer to annually cash-out any unused comp time accrued by the employee. Employees may withdraw from a comp time agreement at any time and request a cash-out of any or all accrued, unused comp time. The employer would have 30 days in which to comply with the request. The legislation would also require an employer to provide the employee with at least 30 days notice prior to cashing out any accrued time in excess of 80 hours or prior to discontinuing a policy of offering comp time.

Employees would be able to use their accrued comp time at anytime, so long as its use did not unduly disrupt the operations of the business (the same standard used in the public sector and under the Family and Medical Leave Act.) Employers would be prohibited from requiring employees to take accrued time solely at the convenience of the employer.

I want to emphasize that this legislation does not eliminate or change the traditional 40-hour workweek. It simply provides employees with another option in the workplace—time off instead of overtime pay. This concept may be revolutionary to some, but to America's workers, who are increasingly frustrated about coping with the demands of work and family responsibilities, it is a long overdue change.

The second bill, "The Rewarding Performance in Compensation Act," would help workers to share, financially, when their efforts help produce gains for their company in productivity, sales, fewer injuries, or other important aspects of performance.

The pressures of worldwide competition and rapid technological change have forced most employees to seek continuous improvement in productivity, quality, and other aspects of company performance. Employers often seek to encourage and reward employee efforts to improve productivity, quality, etc. through what are called "gainsharing" plans—linking additional compensation to measurable improvements in company, team, or individual performance. Employees are assigned individual

or group productivity goals and the savings achieved from improved productivity, or the gains, are then shared between the company and the employees. The payouts are based directly on factors under an employee's control, such as productivity or costs, rather than on the company's profits. Thus, employees directly benefit from improvements that they help to produce by increasing their overall compensation.

Unfortunately, employers who choose to implement such programs can be burdened with unpredictable and complex requirements by the Fair Labor Standards Act, which clearly did not envision these types of "pay based upon performance" plans.

For example, if a bonus is based on production, performance or other factors, the payment must then be divided by the number of hours worked by the employee during the time period that the bonus is meant to cover, and added to the employee's regular hourly pay rate. This adjusted hourly rate must then be used to calculate the employee's overtime rate of pay. For other types of employees, such as executive, administrative, or professional employees who are exempt from minimum wage and overtime, an employer can easily give financial rewards without having to recalculate rates of pay.

The Rewarding Performance in Compensation Act would amend the FLSA to specify that an employee's regular rate of pay for the purposes of calculating overtime would not be affected by additional payments that reward or provide incentives for employees who meet productivity, quality, efficiency or sales goals. By eliminating disincentives in current law, this legislation will encourage employers to reward their employees and make it easier for employers to "share the wealth" with their employees.

I would urge my colleagues to support these two common sense reforms that will help to bring the FLSA, passed in 1938, a little closer to the needs of employees that the law is meant to benefit, as we enter the 21st century.

CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to call attention to America's largest women's public policy organization, Concerned Women for America (CWA), on its 20th anniversary. CWA is the leading voice for women across the nation embracing and promoting traditional family values.

Twenty years ago, CWA's founder and chairman, Beverly LaHate, realized a significant number of important voices were going unheard in the massive world of public policy. A hard-working parent and active citizen, she, along with a handful of other dedicated

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

women, recognized that merely standing against issues was inadequate. On this basis, this small group set out to promote positive change. CWA has grown from that handful of women to over half-a-million members nationwide. Now, according to CWA, those who would label themselves feminists can no longer claim to be the one and only voice for all American women.

CWA promotes values and public policies that strengthen women and promote families. The organization empowers its members to turn concern into action by working to preserve, protect, and promote biblical values through education, legislative programs and community involvement. Among other things, CWA staff and grassroots leaders have been called upon to testify before the United States Congress and various state legislatures regarding issues such as the sanctity of human life, education, pornography, religious freedom, national sovereignty and the traditional American family.

On the local level, CWA members are active in defending parental rights and involvement in education, promoting sexual abstinence among teens, and supporting crisis pregnancy centers. They also educate communities on the virtues of respecting all human life and traditional lifestyles.

In 1998, Mrs. Carmen Pate became president of CWA, where she serves as the primary media spokesman and liaison to federal and local elected officials.

Concerned Women for America's legislative department monitors federal legislation and provides a presence on Capitol Hill and internationally on behalf of concerned conservative women. CWA's field department coordinates the organization's grassroots chapters, providing leadership training, resources and issue updates. The broadcast and media department produces the syndicated daily radio talk show, "Beverly LaHaye Today," which is heard weekly by over one million listeners. CWA spokesmen are always available to local and national media to give the conservative woman's perspective on issues affecting the home and the nation. CWA's research and publications department produces a monthly magazine, *Family Voice*, and publishes an array of informative brochures, position papers and booklets.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commend Concerned Women for America for twenty outstanding years of dedicated service to the men, women and children of our great nation.

HONORING GIL GARCIA

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues an extraordinary man and friend who celebrated his 60th birthday on March 31, Gil Garcia.

Gil has spent his entire life working on and serving the Central Coast of California. His formative years were spent in the Goleta Valley, where he attended elementary and junior high schools; he then went on to graduate from Santa Barbara Catholic High School. After serving four years in the United States Air Force in Oxnard, Gil worked for Arendt,

Moser and Grant Architects for fourteen years, where he received his license to practice architecture. In 1976, he founded Garcia Architects, Inc., an architectural firm that continues to thrive today. Garcia Architects has received numerous awards throughout the years, including recognition from the Santa Barbara Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

In addition to Gil's significant architectural contributions to the City of Santa Barbara and the State of California, Gil has been and will continue to be an effective, innovative and caring councilman and community leader. His work has earned him the Life Time Achievement Award from the Santa Barbara News-Press, Man of the Year Award, and Volunteer of the Year from the Santa Barbara Chamber of Commerce. He has also been recognized by the Santa Barbara Hispanic Achievement Council.

Mr. Speaker, Gil Garcia's dedication to the people he represents is exemplary and I believe in his vision for our community. I congratulate Gil on his 60th birthday, and I commend him for years of service to the city of Santa Barbara and to our nation.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONOREES

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, as Women's History Month draws to a close today, I rise to salute a woman from my Congressional District in Minnesota who has dedicated most of her life to encouraging all citizens to exercise their right to vote and play an active role in government.

Upon moving to Minneapolis from New York City, Florence Gray joined the League of Women Voters (LWV) of Minneapolis in 1948 to get more involved in her new community. The LWV of Minneapolis is a non-partisan organization which works to influence public policy through education and advocacy, providing election-related services, and sponsoring various educational forums and projects. In 1948, Gray helped create a new unit of the LWV along with a group of friends—many of them other young mothers like herself—and served as its chairperson. As the years passed, her leadership positions accumulated. During the 1960s, she was elected to the Minneapolis LWV Board as Treasurer, then became Vice President, then led the group as President from 1963 to 1965. She also served as the Minnesota vice president of the LWV.

After years of public service in the League of Women Voters, Gray went back to college in 1968 to complete her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Minnesota. In 1974, she was appointed Associate Director of the Epilepsy Research Center of the University of Minnesota's Neurology Department. After 17 years with the Center, she "retired," though she continued to serve as a part-time consultant for the Epilepsy Program. During this time, she rededicated herself to the LWV, heading the LWV of Minneapolis' 75th Anniversary Planning Committee. In 1994, she was presented with the LWV's esteemed Bess Minarik Award for her years of tireless efforts serving on the LWV.

One of Florence Gray's fellow LWV members once described her as "hard working, dedicated, tenacious, resilient, witty, wise, and wonderful. She has long since earned whatever honors we can give her." It is indeed fitting to salute Florence Gray for her lifetime of community service.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Florence Gray in celebration of Women's History Month. I thank her for her contributions to both the state of Minnesota and to our country, and I wish her continued successes in the future.

IN MEMORY OF JOYCE CHIANG

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues to mourn the loss of Immigration and Naturalization Service attorney Joyce Chiang.

Ms. Chiang was a bright young woman who was of uncompromising service to my staff on issues concerning immigration law. My staff spoke highly of Ms. Chiang, who was a knowledgeable representative of the agency, who confidently and concisely explained the intricacies of the 1996 immigration law. My district office was fortunate to benefit Ms. Chiang's expertise on implementation of the new law, as she fulfilled her trial-attorney training in the San Francisco INS office.

I am saddened by the questions concerning her death as we mourn the loss of this bright young woman and fine public servant.

RAIDERS TAKE CURTIN CALL

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD this article from the February 21, 1999 edition of the St. Paul Pioneer Press which recounts the exciting victory of Roseville High School's girls hockey team. Impressively, this is Roseville's second state championship title in four years. Amazingly enough, they have only had a women's hockey program for four years. This is yet another example of the young people in the Fourth District of Minnesota accomplishing many special goals.

The coach of this mighty team, Rich Kuehne, will be departing now that the season is over. After 33 years of coaching hockey, including four years with Roseville's girls hockey team, Mr. Kuehne is retiring. Additionally, their star player, Ms. Ronda Curtin will be graduating and attending the University of Minnesota where she will continue her hockey career as a member of the Gopher's team. I wish both of them continued success in their endeavors and congratulate them on an outstanding season.

The Roseville girls hockey team has demonstrated, once again with an undefeated season, that hard work and dedication always lead to success. I wish them luck in future seasons and congratulate them on their superior performance.

[From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Feb. 21, 1999]

RAIDERS TAKE CURTIN CALL (Tim Leighton)

Years from now, Ronda Curtin will be remembered as one of the pioneers of girls hockey in Minnesota.

Saturday night, Roseville's star left a more immediate but very lasting impression that typified her dominance of the sport the past four years.

The senior center and all-time leading scorer in state history scored four goals and assisted on one to power the top-ranked Raiders to an 8-2 victory over Bloomington Jefferson in the championship game of the state girls hockey tournament at the State Fairgrounds Coliseum.

The state championship is Roseville's second in just four years of sponsoring girls hockey. It also is the second time in four years the Raiders (27-0-1) finished a season undefeated. They were undefeated when they won the state title in 1996.

Jefferson (22-4-1) was making its second state tournament appearance and first in a championship game.

"Ronda Curtin has been an ambassador for girls hockey the past four years," Jefferson coach Dave Irvin said. "There is no question she should be the Ms. Hockey award winner. 'We're glad she's leaving; she can take her sister with her.'"

Curtin will play for the University of Minnesota next season. But her sister, Renee, will remain a potent scorer for the Raiders for two more seasons. And Ronda, who could be named the recipient of the Ms. Hockey award today, will leave with her name all over the Roseville record book.

"It was a wonderful way to end my career," Ronda Curtin said. "I'm really fortunate. I was able to come in with a bang by winning a state title in our first year, and now I'm going out with a bang. I don't know how anyone can top that. Playing girls hockey in Minnesota has provided me with lots of memories."

Curtin's four goals gave her seven for the tournament and 249 for her career. She finished her career with a state-best (boy or girl) 456 points.

Her pure hat trick in the second period blew open a close game and gave the Raiders a commanding 6-2 lead.

"Oh, those goals were fun to watch, weren't they?" Roseville coach Rich Kuehne said.

Curtin showed the flair and intelligence that became indelible to Roseville's opponents.

She started her second-period spree with a power-play goal at 6:41. She streaked down the left side, sped around a defender and stuffed a shot past Jefferson goalie Dana Hergert.

"Her reach is incredible," Irvin said. "We think she can stand at center ice and touch the sideboards. That is just one of the reasons why she is so tough to defend."

Less than two minutes later, while Roseville was trying to kill a Jefferson power play, Curtin zipped around defender Chrissie Norwich and had a breakaway.

Just when it appeared Curtin would ram into Hergert, she ripped a hard shot that hit the crossbar and bounced down into the net, giving the Raiders a 4-1 lead.

"We really came ready to play," said Renee Curtin, who assisted on two of her sister's goals. "We were very focused and didn't let up."

Well, they did momentarily because Jefferson answered 34 seconds later. Bethany Petersen trimmed Roseville's lead to 4-2 with a wicked wrist shot from just inside the blue line.

Ronda Curtin restored the Raiders' three-goal advantage with a blast from the right circle that sailed past Hergert.

"We really came ready to play," she said. Erika Mortenson gave Roseville a 6-2 lead with her second goal of the game with 27 seconds remaining in the second period.

Three goals were scored in just more than a minute midway through the first period. Roseville scored two of them, 31 seconds apart.

Lindsay O'Keefe gave the Raiders the lead after firing a wrist shot from the slot. Seconds earlier, Mortenson scored her first goal of the tournament, to go with four assists, on a tap-in from in close.

Jefferson opened the scoring on a goal by Emily Naslund at 6:34 after bottling up the Raiders in their zone. For about a minute, Roseville was unable to clear the puck out of its end.

The Raiders ultimately paid the price when Naslund, in heavy traffic in front of the goal, slid a short shot under the pads of Roseville goalie Jodi Winters.

"I was a little concerned in the early going," Kuehne said. "Jefferson came out hard, and we looked a little tentative. I started to relax and enjoy things a little more when we perked up."

Saturday's game ended Kuehne's 33-year hockey coaching career. He plans to retire to his cabin on Leech Lake. He compiled a 103-4-3 record in four years as Roseville's first girls hockey coach.

"That's the kids' record, though, not mine," he said. "They've given me many wonderful memories."

A TRIBUTE TO TOM TROXEL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Tom Troxel, the Director of the Intermountain Forest Industry Association. Mr. Troxel has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to the timber industry and to the health and well-being of forests across the nation. His tireless efforts on issues related to forestry, forest health and timber practices have gone far to promote sound practices, to level the playing field with the federal government and to better our environment. Mr. Troxel's high regard for our forested lands and the people that rely on them resonates with dedication and enthusiasm. Mr. Speaker, I commend Tom Troxel for all his efforts, and I look forward to working with him in the future.

SAN LUIS OBISPO HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday, April 11, a moving and important event took place in San Luis Obispo, California, which I am proud to represent.

Many of my constituents gathered at Cal Poly Theater to commemorate the 12th annual San Luis Obispo Community Holocaust Remembrance. At this yearly event, the community joins together to remember who died in

the Holocaust, pay tribute to those who survived, and seek to apply the lessons of the past to the reality of the present.

More than half a century after World War II, it is still difficult to comprehend the depth of depravity which engulfed Europe. The systematic extermination of six million Jews and millions of other innocent people—simply because of who they were—stands as the most horrific example of man's inhumanity to man. Now, as fewer and fewer survivors remain to tell their stories, it is even more incumbent upon us to recall the horrors of the Nazi era and teach them to future generations.

Two distinguished speakers were scheduled to address this year's gathering. Klara Bergman was born in Poland and spent the war running and hiding from the Nazis. She is a highly successful businesswoman and a regular on the media.

Ted Johnson, a San Luis Obispo County native, has served in the Peace Corps and the State Department and is an expert on central Europe.

The choice of these two speakers is particularly appropriate this year, as our TV screens are filled with the anguish of Kosovar refugees and our hearts are with the brave American servicemen and women who are leading the NATO attacks on Slobodan Milosovic. As we remember the Holocaust, we must all recommit ourselves to the fight against modern-day genocide and oppression. We must ensure that the phrase "Never Again" is not simply an empty slogan.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONOREES

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, as Women's History Month draws to a close today, I rise to salute a woman from my Congressional District in Minnesota who, by her own example, has helped open the door for all women who choose to serve in elected public office.

Alice W. Rainville, a wife and mother of seven, was the first woman to serve on Minneapolis' Metropolitan Transit Commission. She was appointed to the post by Minnesota Governor Wendell Anderson in 1974—a rare achievement for a woman at that time in our country's history. Also in that year, Rainville served as the chair of the Democrat-Farmer-Laborer party in Minnesota's 54th Senate District. In 1975, she sought and won the Fourth Ward seat on the Minneapolis City Council. By doing so, Rainville became the fourth woman to hold a City Council seat in the history of Minneapolis. She was re-elected every two years thereafter until she retired in January, 1998.

Although she was not Minneapolis' first female City Council member, Rainville became its first female City Council President. Becoming President in 1980, she led the Council until 1990—the longest tenure of any City Council President in Minneapolis. As President, Rainville played a major role in laying the groundwork for the new Minneapolis Convention Center, which opened in 1988. She worked with local officials and consultants on the initial plans and construction of this world-

class facility, which is the largest public works project ever undertaken by the city of Minneapolis. She currently serves on the implementation team for a Convention Center expansion project and remains a valued resource for other development projects in the city.

Since Alice W. Rainville carved out her niche in Minneapolis politics in the 1970's, more and more women have entered politics and government service in Minneapolis. Today, including Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton, a majority of the Minneapolis City Council members are women. By proving to other women that they, too, can achieve success in what had once been a male-dominated political world, Alice W. Rainville is a true pioneer.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Alice W. Rainville in celebration of Women's History Month. I thank her for her contributions to the city of Minneapolis, and I wish her continued successes in the future.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO SAVE MEDICARE LIVES AND MONEY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the first in a series of bills to modernize Medicare for the future: the "Centers of Excellence Act of 1999." Not only will this legislation save Medicare money, it will save the lives of many of its beneficiaries.

Centers of Excellence has already been proven to decrease mortality and lower cost.

Centers of Excellence originated as a demonstration project in the early 1990's to evaluate the effect of volume on quality and mortality for coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery. The Department of Health and Human Services selected facilities on the basis of their outstanding experience, outcomes, and efficiency in performing these procedures. They found that hospitals that do large volumes of a certain type of procedure tend to have better outcomes and quality. The demonstration resulted in an 8 percent average annual decline in mortality and saved Medicare an average of 14 percent on CABG procedures. This year, CBO has scored the Centers of Excellence proposal as saving \$300 million over five years and \$600 million over ten years.

Since the early 1990's, numerous reports have come out documenting higher quality care and lower mortality in facilities that perform a large volume of cancer treatments, cardiac surgeries, and transplants, among others. These conditions often require highly specialized care that should only be provided by the highest-rated facilities.

Centers of Excellence is currently being used in the private sector to improve quality and decrease cost.

Many private sector employers are requiring higher quality standards from their health plans. Not only are these employer groups able to improve quality through Centers of Excellence, they are also able to negotiate deeper discounts with high-volume facilities. Medicare should be given the authority to contract with certain hospitals for quality and volume—

both to save money and to deliver better health care.

Centers of Excellence has already been approved by the House in the past.

The bill we are introducing passed the House in the 1997 Budget Reconciliation bill (H.R. 1015). H.R. 1015 would have made the Centers of Excellence program a permanent part of Medicare by authorizing the Secretary to pay selected facilities a single rate for all services, potentially including post-acute services associated with a surgical procedure or hospital admission related to a medical condition. As with the CABG demonstration, selected facilities would have to meet special quality standards and would be required to implement a quality improvement plan.

The amendment was dropped in conference because of resistance from the Senate. Some Senators from States where no hospitals were designated as Centers of Excellence felt that the program tended to cast into doubt the quality or excellence of non-designated hospitals. Mr. Speaker, the name of this program is not important—what is important is that it can save money and by encouraging beneficiaries to use hospitals that have high volume, quality outcomes, it can save lives.

Like Lake Wobegon, where all the children are above average, it is human nature for all Members of Congress to want their local hospitals to be above average. But not all hospitals are above average—and this is a serious matter. In fact, it is a matter of life and death.

Indeed, good health policy in this nation would prohibit hospitals from doing sophisticated procedures if they do not have sufficient experience. This principle is applied to liver transplants, for example, and ought to be applied to other complex procedures as well. We may all have pride in our local hospitals, but the fact is: some of them are killing people because they do not do enough of certain types of procedures and therefore are not skilled in those procedures.

I regret that this important provision has been subjected to pork-barreling by previous Congresses. I hope that this body will see that it is included in the next Medicare bill that moves through Congress.

Some members of the now defunct Medicare Commission are proposing radical and unnecessary changes to Medicare. Before we cut back benefits and ask beneficiaries to pay more, we should explore every possible cost saving in the system. This bill is a step in the right direction: it saves money and improves the quality of care provided to seniors and the disabled.

The 1999 Trustees report projects that the Part A trust fund will remain viable until 2015, one of the longest periods of solvency ever projected in the history of the program. Simple changes, such as the Centers of Excellence proposal, are all that are needed to improve Medicare for its beneficiaries.

As further explanation of why this legislation makes great sense, I am including below "Extracts from the November, 1995 Research Report" on the Centers of Excellence Demonstration.

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE DEMONSTRATION EXTRACTS FROM NOVEMBER 1995 RESEARCH REPORT

Rationale for the Demonstration: Physicians operate under different payment incentives than hospitals, so hospital managers have difficulties implementing more efficient practice

patterns. A global fee that includes physician services aligns incentives and encourages physicians to use institutional resources in a more cost effective manner.

Design of the Demonstration: Under the demonstration, Medicare paid each of the hospitals a single global rate for each discharge in DRGs 106 and 107, bypass with and without catheterization. This rate included all inpatient and physician services. The standard Medicare hospital pass-throughs were also included, i.e., capital and direct medical education, on a prorated basis. Any related readmissions were also included in the rate. Pre- and post-discharge physician services were excluded except for the standard inclusions in the surgeon's global fee. All four hospitals agreed to forego any outlier payments for particularly expensive cases. The hospitals and physicians were free to divide up the payment any way they chose.

Medicare Savings under the Demonstration: From the start of the demonstration in May 1991 through December 1993, the Medicare program saved \$15.3 million on bypass patients treated in the four original demonstration hospitals. The average discount amounted to roughly 14 percent on the \$111 million in expected spending on bypass patients, including a 90-day post-discharge period.

Ninety percent of the savings came from HCFA-negotiated discounts on the Part A and B inpatient expected payments.

Eight percent came from lower-than-expected spending on post-discharge care.

Beneficiary Savings under the Demonstration: Beneficiaries (and their insurers) saved another \$2.3 million in Part B coinsurance payments.

Total Savings under the Demonstration: Total Medicare savings estimated to have been \$17.6 million in the 2.5 year period.

TRIBUTE TO NOU KA YANG

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD this article from the March 21, 1999 edition of the St. Paul Pioneer Press. This article tells the extraordinary story of a St. Paul teenager who has been rewarded for her perseverance and dedication to her community.

Ms. Nou Ka Yang received the honor of being named The Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year for the state of Minnesota. Ms. Yang has triumphed over the devastating circumstances of losing her father at the age of eight after spending time in a Laos Hmong refugee camp. She is currently a high school senior at Como Park High School where she is an honor student. She has maintained a 3.5 GPA and continues to support her community by doing activities such as translating for other Hmong residents who do not speak English.

The Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year Award is a high honor that recently received the support of renowned talk show host Oprah Winfrey. The winners are chosen based on their leadership qualities, academic success, and ability to overcome obstacles. These are all qualities that Ms. Yang and the other candidates exhibit. Having youth in our communities with such promise allows me to feel comfortable about the future of our country.

Each state finalist receives a \$25,000 scholarship and proceeds to the regional level where they compete for additional scholarship monies. I wish Ms. Yang luck as she proceeds to the next level. I know that she will represent the Fourth District and the State of Minnesota well.

[From the Saint Paul Pioneer Press, Mar. 21, 1999]

ST. PAUL TEEN-AGER AWARDED \$25,000 OPRAH SCHOLARSHIP
(By Nancy Ngo)

A St. Paul high school senior has won the Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year award, good for a \$25,000 Oprah Winfrey Scholarship for college education.

Nou Ka Yang, 18, a senior at Como Park High School, took top honors in the annual state competition that started in 1947. Until the nonprofit service club joined forces with the television celebrity last year, however, no cash prize was given.

Yang was chosen Saturday after interviews with judges at the Radisson Hotel St. Paul. She competed against three candidates from the Minneapolis, Duluth and St. Cloud youth clubs.

The Oprah scholarships were established by the entertainer to help children who otherwise might not be able to afford college. The Boys and Girls Club, which emphasizes working with underprivileged youth, was chosen by Winfrey because of its national work, said Marie Grimm, communications director of the St. Paul Boys and Girls Club.

Winners from all 50 states receive a \$25,000 scholarship. Yang now advances to the regional competition with prospects of winning an additional \$8,000.

Yang plans to attend the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, an option she doubts would have been possible had she not won. She wants to be a computer animator.

She was chosen for her leadership qualities, academic success and abilities to overcome obstacles. Yang, a Laotian Hmong refugee, arrived in the United States from a refugee camp in Thailand when she was 8 years old. She said her father was killed after returning to Laos from the refugee camp.

Yang has four brothers and two sisters. She said she often is busy helping her mother with household chores, as well as taking care of her younger siblings.

Her demanding home life has not prevented her from becoming an excellent student. She ended her junior year with a grade point average of 3.5 Yang has been a member of the Boys and Girls Club for five years and is active at the organization's Mt. Airy public-housing complex location in St. Paul.

"She's an extremely hard worker," said George Latimer, former St. Paul mayor, who was one of the judges. He said he was impressed with Yang's ability to balance home and school tasks. Yang also contributes to her community in activities such as translating for Hmong residents who do not speak English, he added.

Yang sings in a church choir and is on the St. Paul Housing Authority's teen council, among other activities.

The other candidates for the youth award were Charles Adams, a senior at North High School in Minneapolis; Trena Ackerman, a sophomore at Deerfield High School in Duluth; and Tiffany Cherne, a sophomore at Apollo High School in St. Cloud.

The Boys and Girls Club is a nonprofit organization for children ages 6 to 10. There are six Boys and Girls Clubs in Minnesota: St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth, St. Cloud, Mille Lacs and Detroit Lakes. The clubs have drug-and-alcohol prevention programs, sports and social activities and offer career-education information.

A TRIBUTE TO STEVE ARVESCHOU

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Steve Arveschoug, the General Manager of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District. Mr. Arveschoug has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to his work on behalf of the district's many water users. He has emerged as a national leader on the complex and frustrating issue of Bureau of Reclamation oversight. Mr. Arveschoug's tireless efforts have led to a Congressional initiative to examine Bureau of Reclamation practices. Moreover, his keen eye for detail and persistence in negotiations has undoubtedly saved water users and the taxpayers a significant amount of hard-earned dollars. I commend Steve Arveschoug for his solid efforts, and I look forward to working with him in the future.

HONORING DR. MARY CEDERBERG

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues an extraordinary doctor and friend who was recently honored for twenty-five years of outstanding service in Santa Barbara County—Dr. Mary Cederberg.

A graduate of the University of Missouri, Mary received her M.D. from the University of Louisville, Kentucky. She then completed a Fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital and worked briefly at Harvard University. Since 1956, Mary has worked tirelessly as a pediatrician and an advocate for children.

During Mary's twenty-five years of service with the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department, she has directed the California Children's Services program as well as the Children's Health and Disease Prevention (C.H.D.P.) program. It is through the C.H.D.P. program that Mary has left her mark on the entire county of Santa Barbara, by providing innovative and comprehensive preventive care to thousands of children.

Mary is a dedicated, hardworking, hands-on doctor, who does whatever it takes to help the children and families she serves. It has been an honor to have worked with her for so many years. Dr. Mary Cederberg is a role-model for our nation and her service exemplifies how we want public health care to work. I will continue to look to Mary's vision and leadership as our nation addresses health care for children.

Mr. Speaker, today I celebrate Dr. Mary Cederberg's career and I commend her for years of service to the County of Santa Barbara and to our nation.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH HONOREES

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, as Women's History Month draws to a close today, I rise to salute a woman from my Congressional District in Minnesota whose long commitment to community service has proven her to be a true leader.

Betty Benjamin has been a lifelong proponent of women's reproductive rights, playing an active role in the pro-choice movement for 31 years. A former teacher and social worker, Benjamin helped organize the Abortion Rights Council of Minnesota in 1966, in light of her concern that existing law prohibited a woman's right to choose and caused many women with unwanted pregnancies to seek illegal, dangerous abortions. Through her leadership in the ARC—today known as the Minnesota National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL)—Benjamin and the other unpaid volunteers worked countless hours in their effort to ensure that women have legal access to abortion. Their educating, lobbying, and fund-raising efforts were rewarded in 1973 when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Roe v. Wade* to legalize abortion.

But Benjamin's work did not end there. She has remained active in the pro-choice movement because of her concerns that the *Roe v. Wade* decision could be eroded. She led the Abortion Rights Council in Minnesota as president for 14 years, and has served as a board member of the National Abortion Rights Action League since 1967. She represents Minnesota NARAL as incoming chairperson of the Women Candidate Development Coalition, which recruits women across the state to serve in public office. She currently is a member of the National Organization for Women (NOW), at both the state and national levels. Recently, Minnesota NARAL established the Betty Benjamin Leadership Development Fund to help identify, educate and train interested Minnesota college students for future leadership roles.

Benjamin's tireless efforts and many accomplishments on behalf of women's right to choose may best be explained in her own words: "My concern is that the full range of safe reproductive choices will be accessible to all our daughters and granddaughters. To make that a reality there is much each person can do." Betty Benjamin's life is a testament to her words.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Betty Benjamin in celebration of Women's History Month. I thank her for her contributions to both the state of Minnesota and to our country, and I wish her continued successes in the future.

SUPPORT PASSAGE OF H.R. 912, THE MEDICAL USE OF MARI- JUANA ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 912, The Medical Use

of Marijuana Act, introduced by Representative BARNEY FRANK. This bill would move marijuana from Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act to Schedule II of the Act, allowing physicians to prescribe marijuana to patients with a clear medical need for the drug.

Institute of Medicine studies have shown that components of marijuana relieve symptoms associated with terrible diseases such as AIDS, cancer, glaucoma, and epilepsy. The New England Journal of Medicine also supports the medical use of marijuana in relieving the symptoms linked with these illnesses. As an appetite stimulant, marijuana can help prevent the weight loss associated with cancer and AIDS. It can alleviate the nausea and vomiting associated with cancer chemotherapy. Marijuana has also been proven to provide some relief to patients with glaucoma and epilepsy. Additionally, marijuana can provide pain relief to millions of patients suffering from conditions ranging from post-surgery pain to chronic muscle spasms. Often the alternative pain relief options for these conditions have serious side effects such as liver and kidney damage, stomach bleeding, and ulcers. Marijuana has never been shown to cause death or serious illnesses such as these.

Opposition to medical marijuana use has often focused on the belief that legalizing the drug for medical use will lead to an increase in its recreational use. I do not condone recreational use of marijuana, nor does H.R. 912 seek to increase illicit use. This bill is simply meant to treat marijuana as we treat drugs such as morphine. It would only be available to those with a doctor's prescription.

A recent Institute of Medicine report entitled "Medicine and Health Flash," concluded that there is no convincing data to support the belief that the medical use of marijuana will lead to an increase in its illicit use. The point of making marijuana a Schedule II drug is so that it can be regulated as closely as other prescription drug with the potential for abuse. As we have learned in the failing, "War on Drugs," treating marijuana as an illicit drug in all circumstances not only fails to curb its recreational use, it eliminates a potential treatment for some of the most painful and terrible diseases. Treating marijuana as a prescription drug will give doctors more alternatives for alleviating the pain and suffering of their patients.

H.R. 912 would allow for the use and possession of marijuana by those who have been prescribed the drug by a physician. Passage of this bill will succeed in opening the door to increased research into the ways marijuana can be of a medicinal value. We must not eliminate the drug as a potential tool for alleviating the suffering of millions of Americans. I urge my colleagues to support the Medical Use of Marijuana Act.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM ZIMMERSPITZ

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend, William Zimmerspitz, who is being honored this evening for his contributions to the community

and his efforts on behalf of Judaism. Born in 1926 in Crakow, Poland, Bill survived the horrors of the Crakow-Plascow, Auschwitz, Rounienburg-Sachsenhausen and Mauthausen concentration camps during World War II.

Arriving in America in 1949, Bill lived first in Pennsylvania. He served as Vice President of Congregation Ohev Zedek, and was an active supporter of its day school, Beth Jacob, for 13 years. Oftentimes, when funds were low at the day school, Bill personally provided funding to meet the school's expenses. Bill Zimmerspitz is justly proud of his service as President of the Sabbath Observance Council of Pennsylvania.

Congregation Sons of Israel in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, is fortunate to number him among its dedicated Board members. At Congregation Sons of Israel, Bill takes an active part in various charitable efforts, most notable of which is the Gernilot Chesed fund, of which he was Chairman. Through this fund, those in need secure loans at favorable rates of interest.

As Chairman of the Cherry Hill Political Action Committee, Bill has provided outstanding leadership and much time and effort to influence U.S. policy on many issues of importance. Members of the U.S. Congress, governors and other government officials have been better able to do their jobs because of his extensive efforts.

Bill has served for several years on New Jersey's Commission of Holocaust Education, for which he spent a great deal of time traveling the State of New Jersey providing a vivid "verbal picture" of life in the ghetto and of his deep hope and belief that events such as these should never happen again.

Bill's reputation as a noted lecturer, teaching today's youth of the devastating consequences of hatred cannot be overemphasized. Unfortunately, health problems have surfaced which cause him to be unable to carry out the rigorous schedule he believes is necessary to continue his mission.

Mr. Zimmerspitz met his wife, Nancy, while living in Philadelphia, and there founded the W-Z Jewelry Company. Bill and Nancy have two daughters, Faye and Rochelle, and five grandchildren, of whom they are very proud. Three grandchildren, Aviva, Ricky and Ami live in Israel while two grandchildren, Jennifer and Ricky, live in Clifton, New Jersey.

While his contributions to Holocaust education will surely be missed, I am pleased to pay tribute to William Zimmerspitz, a true gentleman and one of the finest human beings I have ever had the privilege of knowing. A finer man you will never meet.

RECOGNIZING MARY LOUISE VIVIER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the City of Visalia and the Kaweah Delta Health Care District to recognize Mary Louise Vivier upon her retirement. Mary Louise is the former mayor of Visalia and has worked the past 17 years at the Kaweah Delta Hospital. Her accomplishments

and activities are vast and varied and they have contributed much to the good of her community.

Mary Louise's education began in 1952 when she studied nursing at the University of California at Berkeley. Later, at the Kaiser Foundation School of Nursing she became a registered nurse. Mary Louise did not end her educational endeavors there; from 1958 to 1967 she went on to obtain three more degrees from the University of California system.

Mary Louise took her educational background to many fields. Most recently she was the Community Outreach Program Director for Kaweah Delta District Hospital for which she also served as Clinical Nurse Specialist. Mary Louise held several nursing, instruction, lecturing and leadership positions in the medical field.

Along with her extensive employment history, Mary Louise has been and still is involved with a number of organizations. She is currently involved in the American Association of University Women, the Sons of Italy in America Lodge, Networking for Women, the Tulare County Women's Symphony League, Soroptomists International of Visalia, Police Activities League, the Tulare County League of Mexican American Women and Pro Youth Visalia. In 1995 she was elected to the Visalia City Council, and served as Mayor of Visalia from 1995 to 1997.

Mary Louise Vivier has gone far above the call of duty to immerse herself in the needs of others and her community. She has dedicated her life to making Visalia a great place to live. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mary Louise for her service and dedication and wishing her a fulfilled and successful future.

A TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE KADLUB

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Christine Kadlub, the Governmental Affairs Officer for the Platte River Power Authority. Ms. Kadlub has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to power consumers and the State of Colorado. Her tireless efforts on issues related to air quality, water and the restructuring debate have gone far to protect many diverse interests, to level the playing field with the federal government, to protect our heritage and to better our environment. Her keen insight, boundless energy, and ageless wisdom make her a special person and a great asset to Coloradans. Mr. Speaker, I commend Christine for all her efforts, and I look forward to working with her in the future.

IN HONOR OF THE PANCYPRIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA DANCE DIVISION AND MR. ANDREAS CHRISTODOULOU

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to the

Pancyprrian Association of America Dance Division on the occasion of its 23rd Anniversary on February 6, 1999.

The Dance Division, known as the Pancyprrian Dance Group, was established in 1976 with the purpose of promoting and teaching traditional Cypriot and Greek dances to the young people of the Hellenic community and others interested in dance and culture. Through dance we are able to enjoy other cultures and learn their history. Only through understanding can we establish positive linkages with our friends abroad.

The Pancyprrian Association of America Dance Group has performed in many multicultural events around the United States and abroad.

They have performed before President Jimmy Carter, Senator PAUL SARBANES, Senator EDWARD KENNEDY, Senator BILL BRADLEY, Congressman BENJAMIN GILMAN, Congressman MICHAEL BILIRAKIS, Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, President Glafcos Clerides, President George Vasilou, Senator Alfonse D'Amato, Dr. John Brademas, myself, and others.

The Pancyprrian Dance Group has performed at Hofstra University; the Odyssey Cultural Festival; the Olympic Cultural Center, Washington, DC; the Malotis Cultural Center, Boston, MA; and in Cyprus, Chicago, New Jersey, Tampa and New York.

This evening of celebration will also honor Andreas Christodoulou. Mr. Christodoulou was one of the founders of the organization that established the phenomenal model that President Costas Hadjicharalambous and members of the Dance Division now follow.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to the Pancyprrian Association of America Dance Division, a group dedicated to bringing understanding, forming bonds and educating with dance and music.

GOVERNMENTS ARE FOR PEOPLE

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, in Yugoslavia, the popular belief strong cold-blooded leaders are best for the social order has again brought many innocent citizens to the hell of war. The question is why do civilized, educated people allow sovereign predators like Slobodan Milosevic to lead them into catastrophe and destruction? There are no easy answers to this question—and Serbia is far away and mysterious to most of us. But closer to home, in too many governors and mayors in America we see the glorification of the strong, cold-blooded leader. Elected executives who recklessly cut families from the welfare rolls, deny food stamps and obscure the right to Medicaid exhibit the same temperament as national dictators. Across the nation elected officials are refusing to utilize the special health care program for children (Child Plus); they are also refusing to spend available funds for day care and job training programs. No one in American public life would use the phrase "ethnic cleansing", but a member of the New York Times editorial board once proudly sanctioned the concept of "planted shrinkage". Governments are for people. Cities exist to make life

more enjoyable for the residents. Police are hired to protect the populace, not to serve as occupying armies. These should be self-evident truths, however there are governors and mayors who have forgotten the reason for state governments and the purpose of cities.

ANTHEM OF THE STRONG MAYOR

O say can you see
Perfection beckons me
Power Mayors show no pity
Traffic is the purpose of a City
Parks are not for dogs
Kids are worst than hogs
Playgrounds breed infant crime
Welfare mothers are a menace
Keep seniors off the street
Incontinence is never neat
Short skirts are a sin
Cops bring holy violence in
O say can you see
Order is sweet rhapsody
Great revenues we bring
With the parking ticket sting
We fill your days
With quota tow-aways
Auto bays big and trains on time
Progress with efficiency rhymes
Traffic is the purpose of a City
Power Mayors show no pity
O say can you see
Perfection beckons me.

HONORING DR. HENRY FOSTER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, AS A LEADER IN THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Henry W. Foster, Jr., on the occasion of his retirement, for forty-one years of service to the United States of America and the state of Tennessee, as a leading healthcare advocate and practitioner. Dr. Foster's entire professional life has been dedicated to ensuring healthy women and babies across the globe.

Dr. Henry Foster has contributed tremendously to the quality of our national healthcare. In 1995, President William Jefferson Clinton nominated him for United States Surgeon General. As a fellow Tennessean and Member of Congress, I fully supported Dr. Foster's nomination.

One year later, in 1996, President Clinton named him Senior Advisor on Teen Pregnancy Reduction and Youth Issues. That same year he was named an Expert Consultant to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and to the Director of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Foster's input on the national level has been highly valuable to our nation's healthcare as we prepare to enter the 21st Century.

He graduated from the University of Arkansas School of Medicine in 1958. During his career he has served in the U.S. Air Force, as Chief OB/GYN at Tuskegee University, and as Dean and acting President of Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee.

Henry Foster has published over one hundred scientific articles and has served on nu-

merous professional and community boards, committees and councils.

Dr. Foster implemented Meharry's "I Have a Future" Adolescent Health Promotion Program in 1987. It is a year-round, comprehensive, community based health initiative designed to reduce the incidence of early sexual activity, teenage pregnancy, alcohol, tobacco and other substance use among adolescents, ages 10–17. The program has been recognized for excellence by the Tennessee House of Representatives, the American Medical Association, the American College of Nurse Midwives-Tennessee Chapter, and former President George Bush, as the 404th Point of Light.

Dr. Foster has been honored numerous times by peers. These awards include: 1982 Man of the Year Award, Music City March of Dimes Chapter; 1992 Boss of the Year Award, Meharry Association of Office Personnel; 1995 Nashvillian of the Year Award, The Tennessee Scene Magazine; 1996 Drum Major for Justice, Martin Luther King Award, Southern Christian Leadership Council, Atlanta; 1996 Meritorious Service Award, National Medical Association, Obstetrics and Gynecology Section, Chicago; and The President's Award, from both Meharry Medical College Alumni Association, and Morehouse College Alumni Association, 1995.

Dr. Henry Foster's work has not been limited to the United States. He has been recognized world-wide for advancement in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology and has participated in healthcare events in Spain, Mexico, Africa, Turkey, Israel, Egypt, Canada, Southeast Asia, England, Australia, Austria, Italy, China, Vietnam, West Indies, and France.

Dr. Henry Foster has unselfishly served the citizens of the United States of America for over forty years and has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of healthcare for every woman and child. Every time Dr. Foster has been called on to serve his nation, he has done so without hesitation or reservation. His sense of duty and courage are exemplary. For these reasons I honor Dr. Henry Foster today. I wish him the best in his retirement. God bless.

REPORT FROM MADISON COUNTY, INDIANA—HOOSIER HEROES

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my "Report from Indiana" where I honor distinguished Hoosiers who are actively engaged in their communities helping others.

Mr. Speaker, it has always been my strong belief that individuals and communities can do a better job of caring for those who need help in our society than the federal government. The wonderfully kind and committed Hoosiers who I have met traveling around Indiana have not changed my view.

Ruthie and I have met hundreds of individuals who are committed to making our communities a better place in which to live and raise our children—we call them "Hoosier Heroes".

I recognized this genuine Hoosier Hero in Madison County, Indiana recently in front of the Anderson Rotary Club. He is Jim Ault, who

is currently retired from General Motors but hasn't been spending his time sitting around. Jim by working tirelessly on behalf of the less fortunate epitomizes a Hoosier Hero.

Jim has made Madison County a better community through his voluntary efforts. He serves on the Board of the Wilson's Girl's and Boy's Club, and raised a large amount of money so that the club may direct the energies of Anderson's youth in a positive direction. Jim is also the President of Madison County Community Foundation and he played an essential role in restoring the Paramount Theatre to its former glory and beauty.

Jim's work has given so many people, the most precious gift possible, hope. He doesn't do it for the pay, which is zilch; he does it for the smiles and laughter. Jim, you are a true hero in my book doing good works for others with no other motive than Christian charity.

Jim Ault deserves the gratitude of his county, state, and nation and I thank him here today on the floor of the House of Representatives.

HONORING LEE ECKERT

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Lee Eckert, a dedicated community leader from Millstadt, Illinois, in my congressional district.

Mr. Eckert has served the Village of Millstadt for 40 years as their Trustee. He and his wife, Lucille, live in Millstadt, where they raised their four children, Trudy, Lana, Kelly, and Toby.

Lee Eckert is retiring this month after a distinguished career of public service. During his tenure as chair of the Public Works Committee and Village Board, his tireless efforts can be recognized in many projects completed under his direction. Mr. Eckert skillfully guided the development of the Industrial Park and new sewer treatment plan for the Village of Millstadt. He also was instrumental in coordinating the building plans for the new government facility, which houses the Village Hall, Library, Mayor's Office, and until recently, the Millstadt Police Department.

What is most notable about Lee Eckert is his willingness to meet any challenge presented to him. I commend Mr. Eckert for his integrity, compassion, and commitment to the Village of Millstadt, so evident to anyone who has had the opportunity to know him. I want to join the community in thanking Mr. Eckert for his dedication and invaluable service for the past 40 years. I am confident that his future years of retirement will be as productive and fulfilling as his past.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Lee Eckert for the example he has set for us all.

IN HONOR OF THE PAN GREGORIAN FUND OF METROPOLITAN NEW YORK AND LONG ISLAND, INC. ON THE OCCASION OF THE ACADEMIC AWARDS BANQUET

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to the Pan Gregorian Fund of Metropolitan New York and Long Island on the occasion of their Academic Awards Banquet on Sunday, March 7, 1999.

The Pan Gregorian Fund, spearheaded by Tassos Manesis, is a non-for-profit corporation established in 1995 by the Food Industry Cooperative of New York, Inc. The Fund's main purpose is to advance, support, and promote the Hellenic-American education system, the Greek language, and academic excellence. Its activities are directed and carried out primarily by Greek-American restaurants and others involved in the food industry.

Since its creation in 1995, the Fund has awarded over \$100,000 in grants and scholarships to the top graduates of the Hellenic-American day schools, as well as teachers and principals in the New York City metropolitan area in recognition of their dedication to the education of youth.

In addition to the grant recipients, the Pan Gregorian will be honoring Dennis Mehiel, Stanley Matthews and Thomas Calamaras at the awards banquet.

Mr. Mehiel, a New York City native of Hellenic heritage, is the chairman, CEO and principal shareholder of the Four M Corporation, Sweetheart Cup Company, and The Fonda Group, Inc. Since 1978, he has been a leader in the field of education as a board member of the New Jersey independent high school for girls, a New York school for learning disabled children, Yeshiva University's Wuzweiler School of Social Work and the American Board of Overseers of Bar-Ilan University.

In 1966, he returned to his birthplace, Washington Heights, and founded the "All The Way" program, a kindergarten through college education support program. "All The Way" provides educational enrichment and supplemental health and social services for children and their families, culminating in a four-year, pre-paid college education.

Mr. Matthews, born in Varvitsa, Lakonia, Greece, grew up during the German Occupation and the Civil War. He emigrated to the United States in 1951. He founded the Greek Children's Fund at Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. As a result of a personal experience, he became acquainted with the financial and emotional stress cancer imposes on its victims and their families. His fund has raised approximately \$2 million to help Greek-American families who have to deal with a life-threatening illness in addition to the added burden of adapting to a new culture.

Mr. Thomas Calamaras came to the United States as an immigrant and proceeded to establish a family food service business. Today, he and his family are an example of successful businesspeople and community-minded individuals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to the Pan Gregorian Fund and its honorees, a group dedicated to extending a helping hand to others.

HONORING THE GOOD PEOPLE AT TROUT AND RALEY

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to all the good people at Trout and Raley, a natural-resource oriented law firm in Denver, Colorado. Their work demonstrates an unparalleled commitment to sound practices, common sense and reason with regard to environmental policy. The tireless efforts, particularly of Mr. Bennett Raley, Mr. Jim Witwer and Mrs. Julie McKenna have gone to protect many diverse interests, to level the playing field with the federal government, to protect our heritage and to better our environment. This team is indeed a great asset to the people of the State of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I commend the people of Trout and Raley for all their efforts, and I look forward to working with them in the future.

TRIBUTE TO CLAUDE C. LAVAL III AND FAMILY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Claude Laval III and his family for their continual support of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (JDF). This year, the JDF chapter in Fresno is honoring Claude Laval and family as the first recipients of the "Living & Giving Award." The Laval family played an instrumental part in the Pediatric Diabetes Center in Fresno, at Valley Children's Hospital. The mission statement of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation is to "Find a cure for Diabetes and its complications through the support of research." Mr. Laval is an active participant in promoting the JDF mission statement.

The Laval family became involved with the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation 20 years ago when their daughter was diagnosed with Diabetes. Along with their support for JDF, the Laval family supported numerous Diabetes camps, making it possible for many children to attend the camps. They are also dedicated supporters of the JDF walks to cure Diabetes.

Claude Laval was born and raised in Fresno, he graduated from Stanford University in 1957. He is the sole owner and president of the Claude Laval Corporation. The Claude Laval Corporation is an International manufacturing company of filtration devices and down hole cameras. The Corporation is in its 27th year.

In addition to his Corporation, Claude is deeply committed to our community and actively serves on several state and local organizations. He has been on the Executive Committee of the Fresno Business Council since 1993, Chairman of the Jobs and Economic Development Committee and a member of the Fresno Business Council since 1996. Mr. Laval has served as Chairman of the Central Valley Business Incubator since 1997. His service is not only limited to the Central Valley, he serves as Director of International Forest Products in Vancouver, BC, Canada since

1994 along with a committee in Washington, DC where he is currently active on the Irrigation Association Legislative and Regulatory Committee. Claude is Director of GDT Corporation in Phoenix, Arizona and the Director of American Ground Water Trust in Concord, New Hampshire. These are just a few of the services that Mr. Laval has committed himself to.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Claude Laval III and his family, for their service to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Mr. Laval is a faithful public servant, who has taken it upon himself to be a active participant in numerous causes and organizations throughout the United States and Canada. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Laude Laval and his family many more years of continued service and success.

KOSOVO IS A CAMPAIGN OF COMPASSION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, the US/NATO military intervention in Kosovo is not driven by any vested interests, financial or strategic hidden agenda. These nations are motivated by great moral interests and high standards which require that civilized people never again should tolerate any rationalization for genocide. Our nation's generous commitment of resources and the large-scale risk of American lives, not in pursuit of the usual narrow vital interests, but to protect the sacred lives of human beings that we will never know personally, represents a laudable and noble national action. The Roman Empire only dispatched its legions to achieve greater conquests. This American "indispensable nation" has deployed its armies in an unprecedented campaign of compassion.

Adolf Hitler, Joseph Stalin, Saddam Hussein, Ede Amin, the Hutu Generals of Rwanda; Slobodan Milosevic; call the roll of sovereign predators who have used murderous ethnic scapegoating to seize, hold and expand their powers. From ancient Egypt to Kosovo the demagogues repeatedly have used the same methods and found a willing mass of supporters. The U.S.-led resistance to genocide in Kosovo shows that finally we have not only learned a vital lesson of history, but now that knowledge also provides an imperative for painful but effective action.

Slobodan Milosevic should have been declared a war criminal eight years ago. Diplomatic patience has been cleverly manipulated by this sovereign predator. Better late than never, we must now declare Slobodan Milosevic a war criminal and send a clear message to all of his confused civilian followers now mobilizing in their neighborhoods under misplaced banners of nationalism and patriotism. For more than eight years the citizens of Serbia/Yugoslavia have failed to marshal internal sovereign resistance to the genocidal policies of their dictator. Their popular will majority's complicity with evil is the true cause of the present conflagration in the Balkans.

War is hell and we extend our prayers to innocent victims on all sides. But the refusal to

watch the repeat of Hitler's death pageant is our duty. There are some who say that because we cannot stop genocide everywhere, we should refuse to stand against genocide anywhere. We can not save them all: Tutsis in Rwanda; Kurds in Iraq; Tibetans in China; but the world can take united action now. In this clear and present instance a portion of the civilized world has both the capability and the will to stop genocide. I am certain that the angels in heaven are applauding these bold and brave actions.

Since the civilian electorate of Serbia/Yugoslavia has not been willing or able to save itself from totalitarian disease; and because a minority of military monsters with tanks and machine guns can hold the majority of a nation hostage; outside intervention is sometimes the only antidote to a spreading poison. Decades of autonomy was the peaceful solution that Milosevic eradicated. Let the Kosovo campaign of compassion send a message to sovereign predators everywhere. Sovereign predators will not be allowed to savagely devour human rights. Diplomatic condemnation of genocide will always be a certainty—and sometimes military confrontation will also be possible.

I appeal to progressive thinkers everywhere to lay aside any fuzzyminded analyses and remember the Hitler syndrome. "Never Again" must not be an abstract slogan. Each one of us has a duty to take a forceful position. We should all be proud of the fact that this "indispensable nation" has both the will and the power to reinforce the foundations of a compassionate civilization.

SIKHS MARCH TO CELEBRATE 300TH BAISAKHI DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, April 10, the Sikhs of the United States marched to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the initiation of the Khalsa Panth. The march, which was led by Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh and the Council of Khalistan, was a celebration of all the Sikhs in this country. Similar celebrations have been held or are being held in other countries. This was a major milestone for the Sikh Nation. I congratulate the Khalsa Panth (Sikh Nation) on their auspicious 300th Baisakhi Day.

The Sikhs received congratulations from several of my colleagues including our own Minority Whip, and also from the Mayor of Washington, DC, Anthony Williams. I note that the Governors of Texas and New Jersey have also proclaimed "the Year of the Khalsa." It is good to see such bipartisan support for the Sikhs, who are being subjected to brutal atrocities and repression in India. Justice Ajit Singh Bains, Chairman of the Punjab Human Rights Organization, and General Narinder Singh from Punjab, Khalistan, spoke to the event. Their remarks were very well received, from what I am told.

I wish I could have joined my Sikh friends at this march, but I was not able to do so. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on this important anniversary. I look forward to greeting many of them at the upcoming Vaisakhi Day parade in New York.

This anniversary has attracted worldwide attention. The Washington Post and many other important media outlets covered this event. At this march, the Sikhs of America raised their voices loudly for freedom.

The heritage of the Sikh Nation is freedom. They ruled Punjab from 1765 to 1849. It was noted at the march that the last of the Sikh Gurus, Guru Gobind Singh, gave them a sense of national identity 300 years ago. It was pointed out that every day the Sikhs pray that they shall again rule their homeland, Punjab, Khalistan.

Sikhs are a separate people, both religiously and culturally. They are not a part of Hindu India. No Sikh representative has ever signed the Indian constitution.

Many of us in this House, from both parties, have been calling for an end to American aid to India until it respects basic human rights and for a free and fair vote on the political status of Punjab, as well as notes on the status of Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the nations living under Indian rule. This auspicious anniversary would be a good time to renew that call and renew our efforts to bring freedom, peace, and prosperity to all the people of South Asia.

I insert the Washington Post article in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 11, 1999]

SIKHS PARADE AND PRAY FOR SEPARATE
NATION

(By Caryle Murphy)

Chanting praises to their greatest guru and walking behind a giant model of their Golden Temple, several thousand Sikhs marched down Constitution Avenue yesterday to celebrate the 300th anniversary of their religion's most sacred event, the creation of the first community of Sikh believers.

Five bearded Sikh priests bearing long daggers and dressed in saffron-hued turbans, led the colorful Khalsa March '99 from the Lincoln Memorial to the Capitol. A float carried the Sikh scripture, Granth, which was covered by a silver canopy decorated with flowers.

The march, which drew many of the Washington area's 7,000 Sikhs and others from across the country, was mainly to honor Sikhism.

"I came to celebrate our religion and what it's given to humanity," said Permeil Dass, 24, of Cleveland, who works in a community computer center.

"Our religion is very modern," she added, noting that it opposes inequality between human beings, the worship of idols and use of intoxicants.

But yesterday's day-long event was as much political as religious, with speakers at a pre-parade rally calling for an independent Sikh nation—to be named Khalistan—in the northwest Indian state of Punjab, home of the Sikh religion. The Indian government opposes a separate Sikh state in Punjab.

"In the Sikh religion, religion and politics are inseparable," said Gurmit Singh Aulakh, head of the District-based Council of Khalistan, one of the groups sponsoring yesterday's event. "We are aware that without political power no religion can flourish."

Among the banners carried in the parade were ones that said, "To Save Sikhism, Sikhs Want-Khalistan" and "A Sikh Nation, On the Move."

In an interview, San Diego resident Harinder Singh indicated that nationalism, as much as religious devotion, had brought him to yesterday's event.

"This is the least we can do to have some political voice around the world," the 36-year-old software engineer said. The message

he hoped to deliver, he added, was that "sooner or later [Khalistan] is going to happen."

On Friday, the Indian Embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission T.P. Sreenivasan, said celebrations of the Sikh religion are "something we heartily support."

As for political demands voiced at the parade, Sreenivasan added: "This is a free country. But that is not the purpose of the march."

In a 1984 crackdown on Sikh militants, Indian police raided their Golden Temple at Amritsar. In retaliation, Sikh bodyguards killed Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi five months later.

Yesterday's event, which Aulakh estimated drew 25,000 Sikhs, commemorated the day in 1699 when the 10th and greatest Sikh teacher, Guru Gobind Singh, initiated Khalsa Panth, the "Brotherhood of the Pure."

Khalsa Panth is the community of those who commit themselves to the tenets of Sikhism. In creating Khalsa Panth, Gobind broadened authority within the religion and took the final step, Sikhs believe, in the centuries-long establishment of their religion, which began in the 1400s with the first Sikh teacher, Guru Nanak.

Before yesterday's march, the Sikhs gathered in front of the Lincoln Memorial, where many waved small U.S. flags and saffron-colored flags with the blue Sikh symbol of Khalsa. On state, musicians played Sikh songs on the harmonium and drums called "tabla."

Dressed in long, flowing tunics with matching pantaloons, women wound their way up a red carpet to kneel and kiss their holy scripture, dropping offerings of a dollar or two. Later, all stood in place with hands folded and heads bowed for a communal prayer. Then it was time to march.

IN HONOR OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF BAYONNE, NEW JERSEY, AND THEIR ANNUAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY OBSERVANCE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Jewish Community Center of Bayonne, New Jersey, on their annual Holocaust Remembrance Day Observance.

The Jewish Community Center, headed by co-chairmen Aaron and Michael Kessel, has organized a remarkable program designed to provide understanding about the horrors of the Holocaust through education; our most important and fundamental tool in promoting the truth about the Holocaust. Using the theme "In Darkness there is Light," the message is that even at one's lowest moment—when one is stricken with despair and sees no way out—even then, there is still hope; there is still possibility; there is still life.

From the eighth grade students who will be taking part in a special assembly program to the seventh grade students who will be meeting with teacher volunteers to the proclamation which will be given by the mayor of Bayonne and honorary chair of the event, Mr. Joseph Doria, this day of remembrance and recognition is an all-encompassing event. Supported by the city of Bayonne, the Bayonne Interfaith Clergy and the Jewish Community Center, the

goal is to bring all members of the community together to learn and discuss the atrocities of not only the Holocaust but the repercussions of prejudice, discrimination, degradation—the driving force behind the Holocaust.

The highlight of the event, however, is sure to be from the guest speaker and Holocaust survivor, Mr. Fred Margolies. Mr. Margolies fled from Germany to Holland following the "Kristalnacht." At only 11 years old, Mr. Margolies had to endure unimaginable pains in order to survive. Once arriving in the United States, Mr. Margolies made it a priority to not let his experiences go silenced. Rather, he was pro-active in many organizations, serving as former Vice President to the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry and to the Temple of Shalom in Westbury. Presently, Mr. Margolies serves on the New York State Holocaust Education and Jewish Advisory Committee of Nassau County and speaks extensively on college campuses, public and private schools, and community organizations.

For these tremendous contributions to New Jersey and their unwavering commitment to fighting discrimination, I am very happy to honor all of the individuals who have worked so diligently on this event. I salute and congratulate all of them on their extraordinary accomplishments to the Jewish Community.

OVER-TAXED CITIZENS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, it is time we hear the cries of the American taxpayer and offer much needed tax relief to the citizens of this country. This week I am especially reminded of the many hardworking families in Southern California and across the country who foot the bill year after year for Washington's tax and spend mentality.

Every year, the federal government takes more and more tax dollars from America's families. Today the average American family pays more in local, state and federal taxes than for food, clothing, shelter and transportation combined. In fact, the Census Bureau recently reported that the average household pays \$9,445 in annual federal income taxes alone—twice that paid in 1985. Yet despite a projected surplus of \$4.9 trillion over the next 15 years, taxpayers will pay more than \$10 trillion in taxes to the federal government over the next five years and more than \$22 trillion over the next ten years!

Mr. Speaker, while the President fights to raise taxes, my Republican colleagues and I are struggling to lower them. I think the choice to lower taxes is an obvious one. We must keep hard-earned wages where they belong—in the pockets of those who earn them. We must stand up for the American taxpayer.

A TRIBUTE TO ROD KUCHARICH OF COLORADO SPRINGS UTILITIES

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rod Kuharich of Colorado

Springs Utilities. Mr. Kuharich has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to power consumers and the State of Colorado. His tireless efforts on issues related to air quality, water and Endangered Species Act reform have gone far to protect many diverse interests, to level the playing field with the federal government, to protect our heritage and to better our environment. Mr. Kuharich's keen insight and wealth of experience is a great benefit to Coloradans. Mr. Speaker, I commend Rod for all his efforts, and I look forward to working with him in the future.

HONORING RICHARD KRESEVITEH GILBERT FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of Pennsylvania's outstanding young students; Mr. Richard Kreseviteh Gilbert. This February, Richard attained the coveted rank of Eagle Scout, a distinguished goal that only 2 percent of Boy Scouts reach. Rich's achievement is the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and community service.

Each Eagle Scout candidate is required to have earned a minimum of 23 Merit Badges, as well as contribute at least 100 man-hours toward a community oriented service project. Richard Gilbert, true to his selfless Scout nature, went above and beyond these minimum requirements, earning 33 Merit Badges and logging over 400 man-hours on his Eagle Scout Project. For his particular project, Rich chose to design and build a new retaining wall between American Legion Post 660 and St. Ireanaeus Church in his hometown of Oakmont.

Under his direction, Richard and 33 others gave up their summer vacations to work on the old retaining wall which had deteriorated on the St. Ireanaeus school playground. He and his crew worked through the hottest months of this summer to shape 120 ties and 22 tons of gravel into a wall which measures 6 feet tall and 110 feet long. Because of Richard's exemplary commitment to his project, St. Ireanaeus Church and Post 660 both sponsored his efforts, and Conrail graciously donated the needed railroad ties. Not only did Rich's labor improve the aesthetic beauty of the community, but it greatly improved the safety of the nearby playground.

Richard Kreseviteh Gilbert is currently a Junior at Riverview High School in Oakmont, and continues to shine as an outstanding leader among both his classmates and fellow Scouts in Troop 7854. His Scoutmaster, Mr. Dave Scatina has certainly provided the guidance and leadership that promote the growth of outstanding young Scouts like Rich. I am honored to stand here today in sincere praise of this outstanding example of the importance of community involvement. Congratulations Richard, your achievements make us all very proud.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION
ON INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES
ACT FUNDING**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleagues to introduce a resolution calling on the President and Congress to fully fund the federal government's obligation under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

In 1975, Congress passed the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, commonly known as P.L. 94-142. The Act built upon previous legislation to mandate that all States provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to all disabled children by 1978. It also established the federal commitment to provide funding aid at 40% of the average per pupil expenditure to assist with the excess costs of educating students with disabilities. Historically, however, the appropriations for IDEA have not come close to reaching the 40% level. Federal funding has never risen above 12% of the cost. As a result, local schools and States are picking up the tab for an additional 28% above their fair share of special education costs.

As a former Governor, I have a unique understanding of special education funding and the tremendous burden this unfunded mandate places on schools. Local school districts spend on average 20 percent of their budgets on special education. Put simply, local schools are expected to pay much more than their fair share. This needs to change. If the federal government fulfilled its special education obligation for local schools, Washington would not have to step in to address issues such as class size reduction and building new school buildings. These decisions could be left up to local school districts who better understand the dynamics and needs of their students. This is precisely why the federal government must fulfill the commitment it made in 1975.

In Delaware, for instance, our largest school district, the Christina School District, currently receives \$800,000 per year in special education funding. The federal commitment is to pay Christina School District \$4.4 million. This means that if we fulfilled our commitment, Christina School District would have an additional \$3.3 million to focus on the needs of their students and teachers. The entire State of Delaware, if special education were fully funded, would receive an additional \$24.8 million. This is a tremendous amount of money, that is desperately needed by local schools in order to reduce class size, build and modernize schools, and implement technology into education. If the federal government fulfills its commitment to fund 40% of special education costs, States and schools across the nation would have the opportunity to focus their funds on the unique and individualized needs of their schools.

The Republican Congress has worked to increase special education funding. Since 1995, IDEA funding has increased by over 85%. This is an increase of approximately \$1.4 billion. Congress now needs to garner the support of the President and the Administration to make IDEA funding a priority for our nation's schools.

WOMEN AND BUSINESS

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the enormous contribution women have made to the economy. As a Member of the Small Business Committee and life-long Long Islander, the issue of small business is an important one to me.

As we approach the new millennium, an increasing number of women are starting their own businesses. According to the National Foundation of Women's Business Owners, as of 1997 there were 8.5 million women-owned businesses in the United States employing over 23 million people and generating close to 3.1 trillion in sales as of 1997. Between 1987 and 1997, the number of women-owned firms increased by 89% nationwide, and as of 1996 women-owned businesses accounted for 36% of all firms in the United States.

Knowing how important small businesses are to our economy, I hope we will continue supporting the collection of data on women owned businesses as a regular part of the economic census of business. The knowledge such data provides is truly priceless, and I want to ensure it remains fully funded every year. Thousands of remarkable women have made significant advances for our economy, and they deserve nothing less than our full support.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday returning from my Congressional District. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on the following three roll call votes: No. 78 on H. Res. 135 regarding amendments to H.R. 98, Aviation War Risk Insurance Program Extension; No. 79 on H.R. 911, to designate the new Federal Building in Raleigh, North Carolina, as the "Terry Sanford Federal Building"; and No. 80 on H. Con. Res. 68, instructing conferees on the FY 2000 budget to protect Social Security and Medicare.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHNSON'S CORNER

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, in Larimer County, Colorado, there is a family-owned business, Johnson's Corner, which has been named as one of the top ten best places in the world to eat breakfast, and was the only United States restaurant to be named. Founded by Joe Johnson in 1953 along Interstate 25 before it was an interstate, it is now run by his widow, Virginia, and stepson, Chauncey Taylor.

What distinguishes Johnson's Corner from all the rest? According to Travel & Leisure magazine, it's the restaurant's cinnamon rolls. Today, I wish to confirm that the "World Famous Cinnamon Rolls" are the best and deserve recognition as does the restaurant business itself.

A way station for travelers driving the interstate highway, this old-fashioned, 24-hour truck stop lit up with neon signs, serves up cinnamon rolls and other good food on formica-topped tables in a family atmosphere. The nearly 50-year old business maintains a great deal of pride in its service to a clientele of farmers, truckers, cowboys, bikers, and tourists. In addition, its location and hospitality have proven to be a good place for Members of Congress and other elected officials to hold town meetings.

It is for these reasons I happily rise today to honor the Johnson family and their employees at Johnson's Corner. I hold them up to the House and to all Americans, as a fine example of the best of America's businesses. They exemplify the industrious spirit and can-do attitude that have made America great.

CONGRATULATING THE SIKH NATION
ON ITS 300th BAISAKHI DAY
SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE
SIKHS**HON. GARY A. CONDIT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, on April 14, the Sikh Nation will celebrate its 300th Baisakhi Day. This is a major milestone for the Sikhs of America and the world, and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on this occasion.

More than 40,000 Sikhs came to Washington, D.C. this past weekend to celebrate with a march organized by Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, who is a friend of many of ours. The march was a huge success, and I would like to congratulate Dr. Aulakh and everyone who was involved in this very successful event. Through their hard work one of the largest groups that Washington has seen in a long time showed up to celebrate the Sikh heritage and declare the need for a free and independent Khalistan.

There are about 500,000 Sikhs in the United States. They are part of a vibrant 22-million strong Sikh community around the world. They have added to America in many different fields of endeavor. Here the Sikhs live in freedom and prosperity. Yet in their homeland, Punjab, Khalistan, they suffer under the brutal tyranny of the Indian government. Under this brutal policy, the Indian government has murdered more than 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. Thousands more are held in Indian jails, most without charge or trial.

Sikhism is an independent, monotheistic, revealed religion. It is not part of any other religion, though it does have some beliefs that are also held by other religions. Like Christians and Muslims, Sikhs have been victims of the Hindu extremists who dominate Indian life. Like Christians and Muslims, Sikhs are religiously and culturally distinct from Hindu India.

The Sikhs have a heritage of self-rule. They ruled Punjab independently from 1765 to

1849. No representative of the Sikh people has ever signed the constitution of India, 51 years after India became independent. In October 1987, Khalistan declared itself independent from India, much as we declared our own independence in 1776. They created the Council of Khalistan, headed by Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, to serve as the government pro tempore and lead the peaceful struggle for independence.

What we know as India never existed before the British created it. Prior to the British conquest of South Asia, the region had many countries which ruled themselves. Just as the Soviet Union's multiethnic empire collapsed, so must India's. It is inevitable. Given India's nuclear weapons and missile development, the world must remain alert to make certain that South Asia does not become another Balkan Peninsula full of Bosnias and Kosovos. The best way to do that is to work for peaceful solutions to the region's ethnic and religious violence.

In previous Congresses, I have sponsored a resolution calling for a free and fair plebiscite under international supervision to achieve a peaceful solution to the issue of independence for Khalistan. I urge the same also for Kashmir, where it was promised by India in 1947, for Nagaland, and for all the states and regions where there are independence movements. This is the democratic way to settle these issues, and India claims to be a democracy. Let the world see Indian democracy in action by scheduling these plebiscites now. If it is good enough for the people of Puerto Rico and Quebec, it is good enough for the people of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and the rest of South Asia.

In addition to calling for a plebiscite, we should end U.S. aid to India until basic human rights can be freely exercised by all people under India's rule and we should declare India a violator of religious liberty for the killings of Christians, Muslims, Sikhs, and others, then impose the sanctions that this status brings. If the situation changes, the sanctions can and should be lifted.

Congratulations again to the Sikhs on their 300th anniversary. May this occasion mark not just an anniversary, but a new birth of freedom in South Asia.

REPORT FROM MUNCIE, INDIANA— HOOSIER HEROES

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my "Report from Indiana" where I honor distinguished fellow Hoosiers who are actively engaged in their communities helping others.

Mr. Speaker, it has always been my strong belief that individuals and communities can do a better job of caring for those who need help in our society than the federal government. The wonderfully kind and committed Hoosiers who I have met traveling around Indiana have not changed my view.

Ruthie and I have met hundreds of individuals who are committed to making our communities a better place in which to live and raise our children—we call them "Hoosier Heroes".

There is a genuine Hoosier Hero in Muncie, Indiana. He is Craig Miller, who I am proud to say is a constituent of mine and has made our community a better place to live.

Craig has made Muncie a better place through his voluntary efforts. He is on the Board of the Indiana Red Cross; in fact, he spent so much time on others' needs, they made him, "Volunteer of the Year for 1997", because of his efforts on behalf of the less fortunate. Craig also serves on the Board of the Boys' and Girls' Club in Muncie.

His work has given so many people the most precious gift possible, hope. Craig doesn't do it for the pay which is zilch; he does it for the smiles and laughter. You are a true hero in my book, doing good work for others with no other motive than Christian charity.

Craig Miller deserves the gratitude of his city, state, and nation and I thank him here today on the floor of the House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO SHERLLYNN RUSSO

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize the achievements of a special person, Ms. Sherlynn Russo. This evening she is being honored as one of the Clinton Township Goodfellows of the Year recipients for 1997–1998 by community members and friends.

The members of the Clinton Township Goodfellows have contributed their time and resources to the betterment of the community for many years. Their goal is to aid the public in ways that other charities and the government could not. For the past five years, Sherlynn has served in various Board positions for the Goodfellows. She has done particularly commendable work on behalf of children. She has co-chaired the Christmas Toy Committee for the past two years providing joy to many children who otherwise might not have had a merry Christmas.

Sherlynn is employed by the General Motors Corporation as a Communications Manager, but still finds the time to volunteer in many community organizations. She is an Executive Advisor for Junior Achievement of Southeast Michigan, the President of the Board of Directors of her home owners association and Financial Secretary for the G.M. Women's Club.

The Clinton Township Goodfellows know that they can count on Sherlynn as they honor her this evening. I would like to congratulate Sherlynn Russo as she celebrates this auspicious occasion with family and friends.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF THE
KOESTER CORPORATION FOR ITS
OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO
THE DEFIANCE COMMUNITY FOR
THE PAST THIRTY YEARS

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay special tribute to a remarkable, community-minded organization from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District—the Koester Corporation.

In 1970, guided by an unwavering commitment to quality and entrepreneurial spirit, William C. Koester founded the Koester Corporation. For the past thirty years, the Koester Corporation has been an integral part of the Defiance community, and has been a key player in the manufacturing industry in Northwest Ohio and around the world.

Through Mr. Koester's innovation and determination, the Koester Corporation has grown from the small firm of three employees he started in the early 1970's, to an industrial heavyweight with approximately sixty employees, conducting its business both domestically and in the international marketplace. Throughout its success, the Koester Corporation has maintained its presence and headquarters in Defiance for almost thirty years.

Mr. Speaker, the true greatness of American productivity and manufacturing prowess is evident from the unique history of the Koester Corporation. With great expectations and more than a little hard work, William Koester has transformed his vision into a highly successful manufacturing and process control business. With the combination of his vision and the dedication and talents of the employees at the Koester Corporation, the recipe for success is written. At the same time, Mr. Koester has maintained his commitment to the local community and has strived to succeed as a good community partner, as well.

Mr. Speaker, it has often been said that America succeeds due to the outstanding contributions of her citizens. In the case of William C. Koester and the Koester Corporation, I think that adage is very appropriate. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to the Koester Corporation. For its thirty years of service to business, industry, and the Defiance area, we offer our sincere gratitude and our best wishes for the future.

RECOGNITION OF SPEECH BY STUDENT GOVERNOR REBECCA
DESISETS UXBRIDGE HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the superb speech delivered by Rebecca Desilets, a Senior at Uxbridge High School. Ms. Desilets was elected Student Governor for the 1999 Massachusetts Student Government Day. For the past 52 years, the high schools

of Massachusetts have democratically elected student delegates to assume the roles of constitutional officers, court justices, and members of the General Court on Student Government Day. This has been a most worthwhile experiment in state government. Mr. Speaker, the speech delivered by Ms. Desilets is both eloquent and timely, and it is with great pride that I submit it for the RECORD.

Ms. Rebecca Desilets, Student Governor, Uxbridge High School. It's quite remarkable to see so many of us here in this historical chamber. I use the word remarkable because we are here as a result of an interest in government. We won our elections in our respective high schools. We took the risk and threw our hats into the ring. This is remarkable. At a time when the political talking heads have focused their attention on scandal and investigation, when TV news coverage devotes more time to a stain on a dress than to the President's many attempts to discuss Kosovo, it becomes easy to turn off, to become cynical about government and politics.

A cynicism has infiltrated our view of the political process. The very word "politics" conveys a negative connotation. Who hasn't heard the seemingly endless jokes of the late night show hosts? Is nothing sacred or off limits? No wonder there is such distrust of the American political system. No wonder there is apathy among the citizens of this nation.

In preparation for Student Government Day, I conducted a survey of my peers. This was a random sampling of the Juniors and Seniors at my high school. It is pretty safe to say that although my survey may not be 100% scientific, it is accurate enough to be a reflection of what you would find if repeated at your high school. I was trying to get a handle on how cynical our age group has become. The results were depressing to say the least. Let me give some of the findings. 75% of the respondents blamed their distrust of government on political parties, on lack of bipartisanship. 60% stated that the political scandals of late had added to their negativity. In the comment area that I provided there were some interesting opinions and observations made. The word "corruption" appeared over and over again as an explanation for the pessimism toward government. Perhaps even more significantly, many students attributed their distrust to the media. Specifically, the press was blamed for focusing on the worst case scenarios of political blunder and bad behavior. One responder said that politicians were more concerned with the "power prize" than with the common good, the good of the American people. Politicians are viewed by many as motivated by self-interest rather than the good of the people they represent.

What is the cause of this cynicism? Of course, some of it comes from politicians and the political party system. Our forefathers were right to have a fear of party politics, of faction. It is also a result of an unrestrained press and the race for great ratings.

It is up to us to reduce the effects of cynicism. However, we can't nor should we eliminate it. A healthy skepticism is a good thing, no doubt. But how can we make sure that voters don't get so turned off that they stay away from the polls, that they simply do not participate in this democracy?

As you probably know, last November's election had one of the lowest turnouts ever. Sure we can rationalize and blame it on the candidates. You know those people who say "I didn't vote because I didn't like either candidate"; or the oldest excuse "I didn't

vote because my vote doesn't really make a difference."

Adlai Stevenson, a Governor of Illinois and a presidential candidate in the 1950s, said: "As citizens of this American democracy, you are the rulers and the ruled, the law-givers and the law-abiding, the beginning and the end." Stevenson was right. We do have an active role to play as citizens of our towns or cities, state, and country. We have rights but also responsibilities.

I know that this room is filled with people who are interested. We care about capital punishment, health care, and education. We may be somewhat cynical but this doesn't stop us from knowing what is at stake in Kosovo.

We are the voters who will decide the issues of the 21st Century. Some of us will be the policy makers of the new millennium. Let us send the message, as we are in a small way just by being here, that cynicism will not keep us from our responsibilities as citizens. In fact, let us be the ones that replace cynicism with healthy skepticism. Jay Leno may make us laugh, he will not turn us off. The Drudge Report can contain sensational gossip, but it won't keep us away from the polls. There may be scandal and corruption but some of us will still consider politics as honorable and public service a privileged.

TRIBUTE TO THE PUEBLO PACHYDERM CLUB

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Pueblo Pachyderm Club of Pueblo, Colorado for its outstanding leadership and years of exemplary service to the local community.

This patriotic association brings together common citizens to discuss and consider a wide spectrum of political topics both national and local in scope.

Colorado Governor Bill Owens last month proclaimed April 20, 1999 Pueblo Pachyderm Day in the State of Colorado. In honor of this recognition, I hereby submit for the RECORD a copy of the Governor's declaration.

STATE OF COLORADO, HONORARY PROCLAMATION—PUEBLO PACHYDERM DAY APRIL 20, 1999

Whereas, the organization represents a unique concept for political clubs by being patterned after the weekly meeting type luncheon clubs, with programs centered around political and governmental affairs; and

Whereas, the Pueblo Pachyderm Club promotes the development of future political leaders and citizen participation as embodied in their motto, "Free Government Requires Active Citizens," and is open to both male and female members; and

Whereas, the Pachyderm Clubs promote better government through club programs and meetings open to the public, providing scholarships for political science students, sponsoring campaign workshops and encouraging awareness of political affairs;

Now, Therefore, I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim April 20, 1999, as Pueblo Pachyderm Day in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this tenth day of March 1999.

BILL OWENS Governor.

A FEW OUTSTANDING WOMEN

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before the House of Representatives today and acknowledge the tremendous contributions of the women of the sixth congressional district of Georgia to our state and nation. In particular I want to acknowledge the contributions of women in business.

The growth and economic prosperity of Georgia's economy has been paralleled by the growth of Women-Owned Businesses and Enterprises. Their contributions have provided quality jobs, innovative services, and new products for Georgia.

I am very pleased to inform you that Georgia is now the second fastest growing state in America in terms of women business owners. For just a moment I would like to tell you about a few of these outstanding women.

Carolyn Stradley, the founder and owner of C and S Paving in Marietta, Georgia is a true success story. Orphaned as a child and a school dropout as a teenager, Carolyn founded her business with a shovel and determination. Today she sits on the National Women's Business Council, and is one of Georgia's leading contractors.

Jane Carithers, along with her husband Larry, owns and operates the successful Carithers Florist in Marietta, Georgia. Jane is Georgia's leading florist and an innovator in her field. She initiated the use of flowers and floral arrangements for business promotion, office interiors, and community benefits. Even while reaching the heights of her profession, she still commits time and resources to many community events and programs.

Jackie Ward, founder of Computer Generations, is one of North America's leading developers of computer technology and services to corporate America. Jackie has created jobs for thousands of men and women in Georgia and the United States. While building her business she has also worked to bring business to Georgia by serving as the first woman President in the history of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

So many women in so many ways are growing Georgia's economy. Women in real estate like Pat DiGeorge, Mitzi Jaznicki, Mary Ann Anziano, Gail Hurst, Sandra Eades, Shirley Hardman, and Annie Parker. Women in homebuilding like Kay Cantrell, and in new home marketing like Bea McDowell. Women in commercial planning and design like Bianca Quantrell, and women in economic development like Annie Hunt Burrus.

I could acknowledge so many more for all they have done and contributed to Georgia. I am very pleased that the Congressional Caucus for Women's issues has chosen to acknowledge the contribution of women, and I am pleased to recognize the tremendous contribution of women in business throughout the sixth district of Georgia.

SIKH MARCH FOR BAISAKHI
SUPPORTS FREE KHALISTAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it was my pleasure to attend the Khalsa March this past Saturday. The March celebrated the 300th anniversary of the Sikh Nation. Over 40,000 people from all over America attended this special event. I thank my friend Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, for inviting me to this auspicious occasion.

There are 22 million Sikhs in the world and nearly 500,000 here in the United States. They have enriched American life in almost every walk of life, including law, farming, medicine and many other. I was interested in learning that a Sikh named Dalip Singh Saund even served in the U.S. Congress. I would like to take this opportunity to salute their contributions to this country.

Mr. Speaker, the March was truly a success. There was a tremendous amount of excitement in the air, as they celebrated their heritage of freedom and showed their support for regaining their lost sovereignty in an independent homeland they call khalistan. Their struggle against the oppression that the Indian government inflicts on them should be supported by every American and by those who support freedom around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan has issued a press release about the March. I would like to place this press release into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

[From the Council of Khalistan, April 12, 1999]

KHALSA MARCH VERY SUCCESSFUL—OVER 40,000 SIKHS COME TO WASHINGTON, DC TO CELEBRATE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF KHALSA PANTH

WASHINGTON, DC, APRIL 12.—Over 40,000 Sikhs, more than twice as many as expected, came to Washington, D.C. on Saturday, April 10 to participate in Khalsa March 1999, celebrating the 300th anniversary of the day that Guru Gobind Singh baptized the Sikh Nation. It was the first time that so many Sikh gathered in the Nation's Capital. A sea of saffron turbans and scarves could be seen around the Reflecting Pool. There are 22 million Sikhs world wide and about 500,000 here in the United States.

The mood of attendees was jubilant and excited as they celebrated the Sikh heritage. The celebration began in front of the Lincoln Memorial, which is a symbol of freedom, and the participants marched to the U.S. Capitol. The stage displayed pictures of Guru Gobind Singh Baptizing the Panj Pyaras (the Five Beloved Ones), depictions of Gurdwara Kesgarh Sahib, the birthplace of the Sikh Nation, the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the holiest Sikh shrine, other major events in Sikh history, and banners with slogans like "Indian Free Khalistan", "Long Live Khalistan", etc.

"Guru Gobind Singh gave the Sikh Nation a heritage of freedom," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, the coordinator of the march. "Today we had a joyous celebration of that heritage," he said. "Now we must dedicate ourselves to freeing our homeland, Khalistan."

Participants in the march celebrated with family and friends and raised slogans. They carried banners that said "India Free

Khalistan," "Long Live Khalistan," and "Raj Karega Khalsa." There was a float bearing a replica of the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the holiest of Sikh shrines, and another promoting "Khalistan—the Sikh Nation on the Move."

Speakers included dignitaries from Punjab, Khalistan like Justice Ajit Singh Bains, chairman of the Punjab Human Rights Organization (PHRO), and retired General Narinder Singh, as well as U.S. Congress Dan Burton (R-Ind.), Dr. Walter Landry, Executive Director of the Think-Tank for National Self-Determination, representatives of Sikh women and youth, and others.

Justice Bains discussed the genocide and human-rights violations that the Indian government has committed against the Sikh Nation since 1984. He said that there is no rule of law in Punjab. He pointed out the Indian government's policy of mass cremations of Sikhs, which the Indian supreme Court called "worse than a genocide."

General Narinder Singh spoke of the sovereignty of the Sikh Nation. He noted that Guru Gobind Singh gave the Sikh Nation sovereignty and that this sovereignty is part of the Khalsa birthright. He said that there is no reason why the Khalsa Panth should not have sovereignty.

Congressman Burton offered his continued support for the Sikh cause. He spoke against the Indian government's atrocities against Sikhs, Christians, Muslims, and other minorities. He urged that the United States stop supporting the Indian government. He said that Sikhs should have their freedom and that the United States should support it. Many other Members of Congress sent their greetings, including House Minority Leader David Bonior (D-Mich.), Congressman Nick Rahall (D-WV), and others.

Mayor Anthony Williams of Washington, D.C. sent a message of congratulations. He wrote, "It is my distinct pleasure to extend warm greetings and congratulations to the members, guests and friends of the Council of Khalistan as you celebrate your 300th anniversary of the initiation of the Khalsa Panth. This is a significant milestone in the history of the world's religions as you celebrate Vaisakhee Day." Mayor Williams added that "you are to be congratulated for your efforts to provide spiritual enhancement to the principles of peace, prosperity, dignity, integrity, human rights and justice for all."

Dr. Paramjit Singh Ajrawat, the Secretary of the march and Master of Ceremonies at the Lincoln Memorial, reminded the audience that Guru Gobind Singh created the Khalsa and recognized the whole human race as equal, including gender equality. He noted that Abraham Lincoln also worked to end slavery.

Attendees passed resolutions to reiterate their support for a free Khalistan, the Sikh homeland that was declared independent on October 7, 1987; to honor Sikh martyrs; to ask the Indian government to release the tens of thousands of Sikh political prisoners it is holding; and to demand that the Akal Takht, the seat of the Sikh religion, be freed from the Badal government, asking the Khalsa Panth to boycott and oppose the Badal government; asking the Khalsa Panth to boycott and oppose the Badal government; and to declare there full support for Jathedar Bhairu Singh as the genuine Jathedar of the Akal Takht.

"Sikhs are religiously, culturally, and linguistically distinct from Hindu India or any other nation," said Dr. Aulakh. "On this once-in-a-lifetime, milestone anniversary, let us dedicate ourselves to reclaiming our lost sovereignty," he said.

"Nations and religions that do not have political power do not survive," Dr. Aulakh

said. "Under Indian rule, the Sikhs are the victims of genocide," he said.

Since 1984, the Indian government has murdered more than 250,000 Sikhs. Tens of thousands more languish in Indian jails without charge or trial. Some of the have been there since 1984. India has also murdered more than 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, over 60,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, Dalits ("black untouchables," the aboriginal people of the subcontinent), and others.

"The atrocities clearly show that for Sikhs, India is not a democracy," said Dr. Aulakh. "Every day we pray 'Raj Kare Ga Khalsa,' the Khalsa shall rule," he said. "It is time to keep our promise to the Guru, live up to our heritage, and unite to liberate Khalistan," he said.

"MY SERVICE TO AMERICA"

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize an impressive young North Dakotan. Margretta Hanson of Blanchard is the winner of the 1999 Veterans of Foreign Wars' Voice of Democracy Broadcast Scriptwriting Contest. Miss Hanson's essay is based on the theme "My Service To America."

I am very pleased to see such wonderful patriotism and values coming from North Dakota's youth. It is my pleasure to submit Miss Hanson's essay for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

"MY SERVICE TO AMERICA"

1998-99 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

NORTH DAKOTA WINNER MARGRETTA HANSON

"Be all that you can be," is a popular slogan of the United States Army. By joining the armed forces, one is showing true patriotism and devotion to the protection and betterment of our great nation, the United States of America. To put one's life on the line by defending the freedoms of the people of this country is a noble deed, but I feel that this is not the only way that one can give service to America. My service to America is to "be all that I can be" as an American citizen. We don't have to risk our lives to make a difference. By simply smiling as you pass someone on the street or in the hallway, you're bringing joy into the lives of others. Theodore Roosevelt once said, "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are." I want to make the most of the talents and opportunities that I have been blessed with.

Some people say that the future of the United States is looking glum. They fear that our youth are committing more crimes, they fear that our youth are abusing more illegal substances, they fear that our youth are showing less respect, they fear that our youth are becoming less motivated, and they fear that our youth are lacking ethical morals and values. What can I do to change the destiny of my generation? Benjamin Franklin wrote in Poor Richard's Almanac, "A good example is the best sermon of all." Through my service to America, I am "preaching" to my peers through the positive choices I make in my life. Joined with the efforts of other young men and women of my generation who are also striving to make positive choices in their personal lives, my efforts will make a difference.

I have been a Girl Scout for 11 years. In Girl Scouts, we promise, "On my honor, I will try: To serve God and my country, To help people at all times, And to live by the Girl Scout Law."

A large part of being a Girl Scout is trying to help other people by following our promise and law. I have held true to my promise by giving my time and talents for the betterment of my community and church. By investing my time in community service and church activities, I am not only bettering my community, but I am also setting a positive example for others.

I strongly believe that the best leadership is leadership by example. The impact of one individual who sets a good example is amazing. It is important to me that I do what I can to better myself and the world around me by making positive choices. One person who develops a strong set of values and upholds themselves to high moral standards can make a positive influence on the lives of others. The power of a single individual who tries to be the best person he or she possibly can as they put their talents to work for the betterment of themselves, their work, and others is very impressive. By making positive choices in my own life, I am serving as a role-model for everyone around me. My service to America is setting a good example for others in the choices that I have made and the choices I will make in the future.

I am working towards the ultimate goal of being all that I can be by working hard towards my goals, showing respect towards others, and abstaining from destructive behaviors. These choices, among others, are permitting me to work towards becoming all that I can be.

I have challenged myself to be all that I can be. My service to America is not one of enlistment in the armed forces, but one that I hope will be beneficial to myself, my community, and this great nation.

FEDERAL JUDGES FOR FLORIDA ACT

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Federal Judges for Florida Act that will provide seven additional federal district court judgeships in Florida.

The Federal Judges for Florida Act will provide five new judgeships in the Middle District of Florida and two new judgeships in the Southern District of Florida. These new judgeships are based on the recommendations of the Judicial Conference of the United States. Although the Judicial Conference has repeatedly recommended additional federal district judgeships for Florida, a new federal judgeship has not been created in the state since 1990.

The Middle District stretches 400 miles from Jacksonville to Naples and is broken up into five divisions: Jacksonville, Ocala, Orlando, Tampa and Ft. Myers. It encompasses three major metropolitan areas and 35 counties. The Southern District of Florida includes Ft. Lauderdale and Miami. These two federal judicial districts cover about 80 percent of the state population. The population of Florida is expected to continue to increase at a rapid pace, with over 20 million residents projected in 2025. Since 1990, the Florida population has grown by over 15 percent.

Mr. Speaker, the need for additional federal district judgeships in Florida is reaching a crisis point. For example, the Middle District of Florida has one of the heaviest caseloads per judge in the nation—ranking in the top ten for civil filings, drug cases, pending cases and total case filings.

The Middle District as well as the Southern District both have High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas. Almost half of the criminal caseload in the Middle District is drug-related—reflecting the use of Florida as a conduit in drug trafficking and vigorous law enforcement efforts to combat it. The Middle District has been 50 percent higher in the number of criminal defendants per judge than the national average. The Southern District has conducted more criminal trials and had more criminal cases pending than most other district courts.

Our Federal District Courts are crucial in the fight against drug trafficking, terrorism, organized crime and fraud—we cannot allow them to operate at a disadvantage. We must respond to the crises facing the federal district courts and fulfill our congressional responsibility. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

DECLARATION OF POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES CONCERNING NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE DEPLOYMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to discuss my support of H.R. 4, the Missile Defense bill. H.R. 4, declares that it is the policy of the United States to deploy a national missile defense system. The importance of this legislation can be found in its absence to declare the type of system to be created, the date of deployment and the location of the eventual system.

I believe that it would be dangerous to rush into deployment of a National Missile Defense (NMD) system without the development of appropriate technology. We must not stake America's national security on a system which has failed 14 out of 18 tests. This legislation does not mandate a date of deployment, which allows technology to advance so that when a successful NMD system is developed it can be deployed.

Additionally, I feel that compliance with the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) II are far more important in our near future than deploying a limited national missile defense. And H.R. 4, does not threaten U.S. compliance by mandating the type of system or the number of interceptors necessary. I believe it is possible for a national missile defense system to complement deterrence, but only through compliance with the treaties already in place.

I am disappointed that the rule prohibited an amendment by my colleague Mr. ALLEN, which would have specifically addressed the issues of effectiveness and treaty compliance when deploying a NMD system. For this reason, I will oppose the rule and support a motion to recommit the bill with instructions to include this amendment. While I believe Mr. ALLEN's

amendment would have been a positive addition to this legislation, I do not feel it is necessary for my support. H.R. 4, by remaining silent on how, when, and where a NMD system will develop allows the Administration to negotiate our compliance with our treaties and for technology to advance so that an effective missile defense system can be deployed.

TRIBUTE TO EVELYN AND ALBERT DEDENBACH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize the achievements of a very special couple, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dedenbach. This evening, April 14th, they are being honored as two of the Clinton Township Goodfellows of the Year recipients for 1997–1998 by community members and friends.

The members of the Clinton Township Goodfellows have contributed their time and resources to the betterment of the community for many years. Their goal is to aid the public in ways that other charities and the government could not. For the past nine years, the Goodfellows knew that they could count on Al and Evelyn to be there volunteering their time and talents to achieve these goals.

The Dedenbachs have been married for 58 years and have four children and six grandchildren. Al served in the Air Force during WWII and when the war ended, began working in the engineering field while Evelyn was busy taking care of a growing family. Volunteering is second nature to Evelyn. She has served in the local schools as a library lunch aide, read to the kindergarten children and was active with the Girl Scouts organization. When Al retired in 1981, they joined the senior group in Clinton Township and enjoy sharing many social activities together.

One of their greatest joys is working and helping the Goodfellows with charitable projects. Al and Evelyn have given to their community with spirit and dedication throughout the years. I would like to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Dedenbach as they celebrate this auspicious occasion with family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE LANCE CPL. BOBBY J. LAWRENCE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the heroism of a young United States Marine from my district whose selfless actions saved the life of a fellow Marine and embody the values of our U.S. Armed Forces.

Lance Cpl. Bobby J. Lawrence of Evart, Michigan, died tragically last Friday at Camp Pendleton in California.

He and Lance Cpl. James N. Jones Jr. of Pueblo, Colorado, were riding in a 12-ton truck when Lance Cpl. Lawrence realized the brakes had failed. To avoid plunging over a cliff after the emergency brakes also failed,

Lance Cpl. Lawrence jerked the steering wheel and intentionally tipped his truck. It overturned and Bobby Lawrence, a week away from his 21st birthday, was tragically killed when the truck overturned. But his passenger was saved.

Lance Cpl. Lawrence will be flown back to Evart for burial. His noble actions will not rescind his loss, nor can they ever fully alleviate the pain of the family and friends who must bury this young Marine.

Mr. Speaker, I know that each Member of the U.S. House of Representatives joins me and the residents of the 4th Congressional District in offering Lance Cpl. Lawrence's loved ones our prayers, our thoughts and our gratitude. May his soul rest in peace and may his bravery be forever remembered in the hearts of those for whom he served.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
COLONEL JAMES R. PROUTY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD.

Colonel James R. Prouty is recognized for exceptionally distinguished service to the United States Army and to the United States of America during the period July 6, 1972 to May 31, 1999. Throughout a distinguished twenty-seven year military career, Colonel Prouty served in a series of increasingly demanding positions that immeasurably contributed to the security of the nation, culminating as the Executive Officer to the Assistant Vice Chief of Staff of the Army.

A brief summary of his accomplishments over the last decade follows.

As Commander of the 2d Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery (Vulcan/Stinger), 2d Armored Division, he was responsible for leading, training, maintaining, and caring for approximately 600 soldiers and their associated equipment (45 track and 175 wheeled vehicles). MG Mallory, the Division Commander, remarked that "his battalion set the training standard for the division because of Jim's leadership." When war came, that uncompromising investment in training returned valuable dividends for the 125 highly-motivated and professional soldiers he provided to Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

As Operations Officer, and later Chief of Staff, for the United States Army Space and Strategic Defense Command (USASSDC), COL Prouty was responsible for planning and resourcing all current, future, and contingency operations; determining, analyzing, and integrating requirements for Army Space Systems; and coordinating those requirements with the Army Staff, the Joint Staff, and US Space Command. Leveraging his broad warfighting talents, COL Prouty initially focused his directorate's efforts on incorporating space considerations into Army doctrine and training events. From these efforts, he developed and prioritized requirements for Army Space Systems, published in the first Army Space Modernization Plan, supporting commanders across all Battlefield Operating Systems. LTG Lionetti described him as "smart, innovative, and visionary; he made improvements of enormous significance." Later, his directorate

stood up USASSDC's Theater Missile Defense (TMD) cell, and COL Prouty became the Army's focal point for a wide variety of TMD initiatives. Once again, COL Jim Prouty was equal to the task, overseeing the integration of delivery of the TMD Force Projection Tactical Operations Center (TOC), a major new warfighting asset available to support Joint Land Force commanders worldwide. At the same time, COL Prouty was instrumental in directing the command's highly successful participation in support of the Commission on Roles and Missions.

As Commander, Test and Experimentation Command (TEXCOM) Experimentation Center, COL Prouty was responsible for conducting and supporting a wide range of independent operational tests and experiments using state-of-the-art, real time casualty assessment instrumentation, data reduction, and analysis. He was also responsible to lead, train, and care for an organic Armored/Mechanized Infantry Battalion Task Force of over 350 soldiers. As in previous assignments, his initial emphasis was on training and performing to standard. As a result, his soldiers achieved record success on the gunnery ranges, and the major weapons systems were maintained at unprecedented operational readiness rates. More importantly, every operational test and experiment was carefully planned, coordinated, and executed on time, under budget, yielding results which were both analytically sound and compelling. The highly successful operational test of the Battlefield Combat Identification System (BCIS) is a testament to COL Prouty's leadership, superb knowledge of training, and understanding of how to operationalize emerging technology. The latter months of COL Prouty's command were once again dedicated to the mission of inactivation—and taking care of troops. In recognizing the professional manner in which COL Prouty inactivated the command, MG Lehowicz remarked that "he turned in equipment and facilities (valued at over \$100M) in such an outstanding condition that it defied the imagination."

Since July 1997, COL Prouty has served as the Executive Officer to Assistant Vice Chief of Staff of the Army (AVCSA). It is in this role that COL Prouty's unique talents and abilities have had their greatest impact on the Army. While his duties are broadly defined, as in his previous assignments, it is in the details where COL Prouty has left an indelible mark on the future of our Army.

His ability to energize a diverse body of senior executives and general officers, from across the Army Staff, with widely different interests, toward a common purpose, is truly remarkable. He succeeds because he invests the time, energy, and intellect necessary to understand the most complex issues from the perspectives of all stakeholders; he possesses the wisdom, experience, and judgment to find the common ground; and he employs the finely-honed leadership skills to motivate all to positive action. These skills were particularly evident in directing the AVCSA's efforts to transition two incoming VCSAs and develop a workable strategy to fully integrate the Army's active and reserve components—later detailed in the CSA White Paper, One Team, One Fight, One Future.

Immediately upon assuming his duties, he developed the trust and confidence of every senior leader on the Army Staff, and countless

others in the department and on Capitol Hill. Through two full Planning, Programming, and Budgeting System (PPBS) cycles, and in defense of two Army budget submissions, the Chief of Staff, the Vice Chief of Staff, and/or the Assistant Vice Chief of Staff were invariably present at the decisive place and time, with the compelling argument for Army requirements and resources. These opportunities were more often than not developed behind the scenes, via a broad, but comprehensive staff effort with COL Prouty at the helm. Perhaps of even greater importance, COL Prouty's insight, instincts, and mastery of the subject matter allowed him to resolve innumerable requirements and resource issues, in a manner favorable to Army objectives, without requiring the dedicated attention of the senior leadership.

COL Jim Prouty's team-building and managerial skills have never been more fully validated. The office of the AVCSA is a model of efficiency—lean, professional, effective, and highly-credible. This success is singularly attributable to the leadership talent and managerial savvy of COL Jim Prouty. As the role of the AVCSA continued to evolve, COL Prouty ensured that the office staff remained one step ahead of the issues, and cultivated the professional working relationships necessary to ensure the role of the AVCSA on the Army Staff was well understood and fully integrated. He sets high standards in all aspects of staff performance, and inspires subordinates to achieve them. Even under the most difficult circumstances, morale was invariably high, and the staff never missed a beat.

COL Jim Prouty served with uncommon distinction in each of these critical positions during these last ten years. His outstanding performance in each position contributed extensively to the success, not just of his unit, but to the Army. The impact of COL Prouty's professionalism, selfless commitment, and accomplishments will endure well beyond his retirement. His level of responsibility, particularly in his final position, was far above that of his peers, and his performance was on a par with most of the general officers I routinely work with. Given these factors, it is most appropriate that COL Prouty's extraordinary service to the United States Army and the United States of America be recognized by the 106th Congress.

GENERAL JOHNNIE E. WILSON

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to General Johnnie Edward Wilson, who, on April 26, is retiring from the United States Army after more than 37 years on active duty and has served this country with honor and dignity. General Wilson is an exceptional leader, a "soldier's soldier."

Having started his career as a private, he understands soldiering, leadership, and selfless service. He is known on Capitol Hill for his dedication and integrity. As the Army's senior logistician for the past 3 years, he has tackled the tough issues in technology, acquisition and logistics while consistently focused on proper care for his personnel. Thanks to

the efforts of patriots like General Wilson, the United States Army enters the new millennium as a strong, proud fighting force. This outstanding American deserves the praise and thanks of a grateful nation.

Born on February 4, 1944, General Wilson was raised in Lorain, Ohio, and entered the Army in August 1961 as an enlisted soldier, attaining the rank of staff sergeant before attending Officer Candidate School (OCS). After completing OSC in 1967, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Ordnance Corps. He was awarded a bachelor of science degree in logistics management from the Florida Institute of Technology. His military education includes completion of the Ordnance Officer Basic and Advanced Course, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

General Wilson held a wide variety of important command and staff positions culminating in his current assignment as the commanding general, U.S. Army Material Command. Other key assignments include: deputy chief of staff for logistics, Department of the Army, Pentagon; chief of staff, U.S. Army Material Command; commanding general, Ordnance Center and School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland; deputy commanding general, 21st Theater Army Area Command, U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army; commander, 13th Support Command, Fort Hood, Texas, and, commander, Division Support Command, 1st Armored Division, U.S. Army, Europe.

General Wilson served with distinction at every level of command. He commanded three times at the company level—a maintenance company in the 82nd Airborne Division as a first lieutenant, followed by command of a supply and services company in Vietnam with the 173rd Airborne Brigade, and a maintenance company with the 1st Armored Division in Europe. At the lieutenant colonel level, General Wilson commanded the 709th maintenance Battalion, 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Washington, which converted and became the Army's first Main Support Battalion. General Wilson commanded twice at the colonel level, serving as the Division Support Command commander of the 1st Armored Division followed by command of the 13th Support Command at Fort Hood, Texas.

General Wilson next served as the deputy commanding general, 21st Theater Army Area Command, the Army's largest and most diverse logistics unit. Based on his wide experience with leading soldiers, General Wilson was selected to command the Ordnance Center and School responsible for training thousands of soldiers, NCOs and officer every year. Following this successful assignment, General Wilson served as the chief of staff, AMC, where he was responsible for resource and personnel management for a workforce with over 80,000 military and civilian members. From 1964 to 1996, General Wilson served as the deputy chief of staff for logistics, Department of the Army, where he was responsible for worldwide logistics.

General Wilson's awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Meritorious Service Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Special Forces Tab, Master Parachutist Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

General Wilson is married to the former Helen McGhee of Elyria, Ohio, and they have three children: Johnnie E. Jr., Charlene, and Scott, and five grandchildren. Please join me in commending the service of General Johnnie Wilson this month upon the occasion of his retirement.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—INTRODUCTION

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I come to the Floor this afternoon to introduce a House Concurrent Resolution to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The cosponsors and I believe that the federal government cannot continue to ignore the commitment it made over 24 years ago to children with disabilities.

In 1975, Congress passed the Education for All Handicapped Children Act, commonly known as P.L. 94-142. The Act established the federal commitment to provide funding at 40% of the average per pupil expenditure to assist with the excess costs of educating students with disabilities.

Since 1995, upon Republican insistence, funding for IDEA has risen over 85%. With this increase in funding, IDEA is now funded at 12% of the average per pupil expenditure—much higher than the 7% of 5 years ago. We must continue to increase funding to reach the 40% of the average pupil expenditure funding level mandated in law. Without these federal IDEA funds, local school districts must cover the unpaid federal share.

President Clinton proposes to level fund IDEA for FY2000. Considering that the number of children with disabilities is projected to increase by 123,000 from 1999 to 2000, the President's budget request actually cuts funding for children with disabilities from \$702 per child in FY1999 to \$688 per child in FY2000.

Congress must ensure that the Federal government lives up to the promises it made to the students, parents, and schools over two decades ago. We must fully fund IDEA before Washington creates new education programs.

Once the Federal government begins to pay its fair share under IDEA, local funds will be freed up, allowing local schools to hire and train high-quality teachers, reduce class size, build and renovate classrooms, and invest in technology.

The resolution I introduce today urges Congress to fully fund IDEA while maintaining its commitment to existing federal education programs. We can both ensure that children with disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education and ensure that all children have the best education possible if we just provide fair federal funding for special education.

I urge everyone to support this important resolution. Congress must fulfill its commitment to assist States and localities with educating children with disabilities.

A TRIBUTE TO JUDGE A. LEON
HIGGINBOTHAM

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, It is my honor to rise in tribute to the late A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr. He was a great American and a great friend. Higginbotham was a man who excelled in many disciplines. He was a scholar, a writer, a lawyer, a judge and especially a humanitarian.

Leon Higginbotham studied engineering at Purdue University, continued his education at Antioch College and received a LL.B. from Yale University in 1952. Eighteen years later, he became the first black elected trustee of Yale after defeating five other distinguished alumni in a nationwide ballot.

In 1963, President Kennedy nominated A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr. for the U.S. District Court of Eastern Pennsylvania. However, Senator James Eastland of Mississippi blocked his confirmation by the Senate. After Kennedy's assassination, President Johnson nominated Higginbotham, and in 1964 appointed him to a seat on the U.S. District Court of Eastern Pennsylvania. In 1977, Judge Higginbotham was elevated to the 3rd US Circuit Court of Appeals. He served as the Chief Judge of the Appeals Court from 1990 to 1993. His celebrated career was filled with judicial accomplishments. He was the author of more than 600 published opinions and books, including "In the Matter of Race: Race and the American Legal Process" and "Shades of Freedom."

I first met Judge Higginbotham when he was supporting Senator John F. Kennedy in his campaign for President. In the past twenty years we developed a closer friendship, exchanging telephone calls and letters. I admired and respected the Judge for his intellectual prowess and his untiring commitment to civil rights.

At the time of his death last December, Judge Higginbotham was a retired Chief Judge Emeritus of the United States Court of Appeals, the Public Service Professor of Jurisprudence at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, and Counsel to the law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York. During his life, Judge Higginbotham received numerous honors including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the National Human Relations Award of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the National Urban Award for outstanding contributions towards the goal of equal opportunity, the 81st NAACP Spingarn Medal for the highest and noblest achievement by an African-American, and the 1994 recipient of the Congressional Black Caucus' Leland Humanitarian Award.

In 1996, Higginbotham became an advisor to Texaco, Inc. after the company agreed to a \$176 million settlement of a race-discrimination case. There he initiated a formal evaluation of the company's human resource policies and diversity practices in an effort to make Texaco an industry model for its hiring and promotion of black employees. In an interview that year with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Judge Higginbotham was described as seeing "the future of race relations with an equal mixture

of optimism and pessimism." Leon Higginbotham knew and understood the terrible history of racial discrimination in the justice system. He knew that this history could never be forgotten if black Americans ever hope to achieve equal justice under law. For this reason, Judge Higginbotham shared my dismay when former President George Bush presented Clarence Thomas as his choice to replace justice Thurgood Marshall as Associate Supreme Court Justice. On that day, independent-minded women were appalled, knowledgeable black Americans were outraged and advocates for the poor abandoned their hopes. Then, the disastrous day came when the U.S. Senate confirmed Clarence Thomas' appointment and the waves of despair washed over millions who had fought, sacrificed, and suffered to overcome centuries of discrimination and to achieve respect and quality. In Black America, six months after Thomas' appointment the attitude and sentiment toward him as a person was reflected in the words of Judge Higginbotham who wrote:

Suppose someone wanted to steal back past achievements, reign in the present gains and cutoff future expectations among African-Americans about participation in the Judicial process. That person would have found it difficult to devise a better plan than nominating Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court which decreasing the number of African-Americans on the federal bench.

Mr. Speaker. Judge Higginbotham was devoted to educating this nation about the perils of one black man, Clarence Thomas, being misconstrued as a respectable replacement for Thurgood Marshall who was a bonafide representative of the hopes, dreams and aspirations of black Americans. In this undertaking, Judge Leon Higginbotham wrote to Clarence Thomas upon His confirmation to the Supreme Court. Higginbotham documented the legal struggles that had abolished impediments to the freedom of black people and enunciated the underlying personal values and courage which guided those who led these battles. In this letter, Higginbotham challenged Thomas to recall, to understand and to emulate the lives of those great gladiators who changed the course of history. In this open letter, Higginbotham cited the damage done to the cause of black America and the crisis in race relations spurred by Judge Thomas' confirmation. Excerpts from this letter provide the details of his message:

At first I thought that I should write you privately—the way one normally corresponds with a colleague or friend. I still feel ambivalent about making this letter public, but I do so because your appointment is profoundly important to this country and the world, and because all Americans need to understand the issues you will face on the Supreme Court. In short, Justice Thomas, I write this letter as a public record so that this generation can understand the challenges you face as an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court, and the next generation can evaluate the choices you have made or will make. . . .

By elevating you to the Supreme Court, President Bush has suddenly vested in you the option to preserve or dilute the gains this country has made in the struggle for equality. This is a grave responsibility indeed. . . . And while much has been said about your admirable determination to overcome terrible obstacles, it is also important to remember how you arrived where you are now, because you did not get there by yourself.

You can become an exemplar of fairness and the rational interpretation of the Constitution, or you can become an archetype of inequality and the retrogressive evaluation of human rights. The choice as to whether you will build a decisional record of true greatness or of mere mediocrity is yours.

Black Ivy League alumni [Higginbotham and Thomas finished Yale] in particular should never be too impressed by the educational pedigrees of Supreme Court Justices. The most wretched decision ever rendered against black people in the past century was *Plessy v. Ferguson*. It was written in 1896 by Justice Henry Billings Brown who attended both Yale and Harvard law schools. The opinion was joined by Justice George Shiras, a graduate of Yale Law School, as well as by Chief Justice Melville Fuller and Justice Horace Gray, both alumni of Harvard Law School.

If those four Ivy League alumni on the Supreme Court in 1896 had been as faithful in their interpretation of the Constitution as Justice John Harlan, a graduate of Transylvania, a small law school in Kentucky, then the venal precedent of *Plessy v. Ferguson*, which established the federal "separate but equal" doctrine and legitimized the worst forms of race discrimination, would not have been the law of our nation for sixty years. The separate but equal doctrine; also known as Jim Crow, created the foundations of separate and unequal allocation of resources, and oppression of the human rights of blacks.

The tragedy with *Plessy v. Ferguson* is not that the Justices had the "wrong" education, or that they attended the "wrong" law schools. The tragedy is that the Justices had the wrong values, and that these values poisoned this society for decades.

I have read almost every article you have published, every speech you have given, and virtually every public comment you have made during the past decade. Until your confirmation hearing, I could not find one shred of evidence suggesting an insightful understanding on your part on how the evolutionary movement of the Constitution and the work of civil rights organizations have benefited you. . . .

While you were a presidential appointee for eight years, as Chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and as an Assistant Secretary at the Department of Education, you made what I would regard as unwarranted criticisms of civil rights organizations of the Warren Court, and even of Justice Thurgood Marshall. Perhaps these criticisms were motivated by what you perceived to be your political duty to the Reagan and Bush administrations. Now that you have assumed what should be the non-partisan role of a Supreme Court Justice, I hope you will take time out to carefully evaluate some these unjustified attacks.

But your comments troubled me then and trouble me still because they convey a stunted knowledge of history and an unformed judicial philosophy. . . . You are no longer privileged to offer flashy one-liners to delight the conservative establishment. Now what you write must inform, not entertain. Now your statements and your votes can shape the destiny of the entire nation.

During the last ten years, you have often described yourself as a black conservative. I must confess that, other than their own self-advancement, I am at a loss to understand what is it that the so-called black conservatives are so anxious to conserve. Now that you no longer have to be outspoken on their behalf, perhaps you will recognize that in the past it was the white "conservatives" who screamed "Segregation now, Segregation forever!" It was primarily the conservative who attacked the Warren Court relentlessly

because of *Brown v. Board of Education* and who stood in the way of almost every measure ensure gender and racial advancement.

Of the fifty-two Senators who vote in favor of your confirmation some thirteen hailed from nine Southern states. Some may have voted for you because they agreed with President Bush's assessment that you were "the best person for the position." But, candidly, Justice Thomas, I do not believe that you were indeed the most competent person to be on the Supreme Court. Charles Bowser, a distinguished African-American Philadelphia lawyer said: "I'd be willing to bet that not one of the Senators who voted to confirm Clarence Thomas would hire him as their lawyer."

Later, Judge Higginbotham questioned the decision of the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association which had invited Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas to address its annual convention. In that letter, which appeared in the September 1988 edition of *Emerge* magazine, Higginbotham explained why he was "shocked" to learn of Thomas' invitation:

I will not take a position as to whether he should be disinvited, and leave that significant responsibility to the judgment of the Executive Committee. I am not one who believes there is, or should be, a monolithic view within the African-American community on all issues; but, I do think there are certain undisputable common denominators as to what constitutes progress or regress. Within that context and from the perspective of almost every constitutional law scholar, there is no doubt that Justice Thomas had done more to turn back the clock of racial progress than has perhaps any other African-American public official in the history of this country.

Higginbotham continued, mentioning those ruling in which Thomas overlooked history to undermine the progress of black Americans in the civil rights struggle and wrote:

In view of his harsh conservative record, please explain to me why you invited Justice Thomas, who has voted consistently against the interest of African Americans, minorities and women.

Mr. Speaker, a few years ago, Judge Higginbotham underwent open heart surgery. After his recovery he wrote to his many friends thanking them for their expressions of concern and prayers. In his note, the judge quoted what a renown heart specialist had said:

During the last twenty years, I have talked to many dying patients. I have never met one who wished that s/he had spent more time at the office, but I have met thousands who regretted that they did not spend more time enjoying their family and pursuing less stressful options.

Judge Higginbotham did reduce his voluminous schedule of activities, but fortunately he remained a powerful voice which helped to shape attitudes and influence opinions about race and racism in this country. His contributions to the civil rights movement will be forever cherished.

THE CORRECT APPROACH TO GLOBALIZATION

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, no issue facing us is more important than how

we respond to the question of adapting to the new global economy. Until fairly recently, the accepted wisdom was that all governments had to do was to allow capital to find its most profitable niche, and we would all reap the benefits. Increasingly people understand that this is an incomplete approach to governance and an inadequate response to the social economic and political problems posed by the new global economy. In the interest of fostering discussion of this important set of issues, I ask unanimous consent to insert into the RECORD at this point three commentaries on this issue which while diverse in the perspective from which they are made, share a common understanding of the general direction in which we should be going, and are also distinguished by a strong intelligence.

First, I insert a speech given by John Sweeney, President of the AFL-CIO, at Davos. John Sweeney's thoughtful leadership in trying to find a way to reconcile the strengths of the market with policies that offset the negative effects of a pure market approach is a genuine asset for the United States in our efforts to deal with this matter.

Second, I insert an article by Bruce Freed who has been writing very thoughtfully in commentary aimed at the enlightened leadership of the business community.

Third, I insert a very thoughtful article by one of the most thoughtful of our contemporary journalists, E.J. Dionne, on the rhetorical aspects of this broader question.

REMARKS BY JOHN SWEENEY, PRESIDENT OF THE AFL-CIO, 1999 ANNUAL MEETING WORLD, ECONOMIC FORUM, DAVOS, SWITZERLAND, JANUARY 30, 1999

It is a delight to be here once more, and to have this opportunity to share with you some of the perspectives of the 40 million working men and women in households represented by the AFL-CIO.

We've been asked to talk about how to "manage the social impact of globalization." But let us not think of globalization as a natural phenomenon with regrettable social side effects. The forces of globalization now wracking the world are the creation of man, not of God. Our task is not to make societies safe for globalization, but to make the global system safe for decent societies.

This is not a quibble about words. As we meet, about a third of the world's economy is in recession. 100 million people who thought they were part of a growing middle class have been brutally thrust back into poverty. And, as recent events in Brazil have shown, the crisis is far from over.

Global deflation is now the nightmare of central bankers. Too many goods, too much productive capacity chasing too few consumers with too little money. In the crisis, the US is the buyer of last resort. But US consumers are already spending more than they make. US manufacturers are in recession. In recent months, 10,000 steelworkers have lost their jobs to a flood of imports, their families disrupted, their communities devastated. The US trade deficit is headed to unsustainable new heights.

The terrible human costs can have one good effect. They can sober the debate about the global economy. For two decades, conservative governments have been on a binge, dismantling controls over capital, currencies, and corporations. Now we awake the morning after, our heads aching, our hearts burdened by the destruction that we see around us.

Globalization—in the extreme, corporate dominated, de-regulated form we have witnessed—is not the scapegoat of the current

crisis; it is the cause of it. After two decades, the results are very clear. The global casino of capital and currency speculation has generated booms and busts of increasing severity and frequency, as World Bank economist Joseph Stiglitz has warned. And it has produced slower growth and greater inequality in countries large and small, developed and developing—as governments scramble to protect themselves from the global storms.

In its current form, globalization cannot be sustained. Democratic societies will not support it. Authoritarian leaders will fear to impose it. The so-called Washington consensus is no longer the consensus even in Washington.

Over the last year and one-half, workers, environmentalists, consumers—reflecting the opinion of the vast majority of Americans—came together to block the president's request for fast track trade authority not once, but twice.

We insisted that enforceable worker rights and environmental protections be central to any new round of trade negotiations.

And we were right. Now US Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin calls for a new "architecture" to limit instability. President Clinton pushes new initiatives on child labor, on core labor rights, and on the environment. America's voice, I suggest to you, will either sound a new note in any future round of trade negotiations, or it will be muted in spite of itself.

When you are in a hole, the first thing to do is to stop digging. If the newly sobered global community has stopped digging, we're still left in the hole. Working people across the world understand that if nothing is done, corporate globalization will continue, unchecked and uncontrolled. We need to go a different way.

Calls for greater transparency, better accounting and more generous safety nets are satisfying, but not sufficient. The essential building blocks of a new internationalism can be seen in the struggles of workers and citizens across the world.

People are demanding protection from the havoc caused by currency and capital speculation. If this is not done at a global level, it will be done at a national level—as we've seen from Hong Kong to Malaysia to Chile.

While curbing speculators, we must get the global economy going again. Recent efforts to lower interest rates in Europe and the United States, and to pump up demand in Japan should be seen only as first steps.

In this crisis, as the IMF recently admitted, enforcing austerity on indebted countries only makes things worse. The Fund and the Bank should help restructure debt and stimulate growth. And as the growing Jubilee 2000 movement has called for, industrial nations should move to relieve the debt burdens on the poorest nations, while increasing investment in sustainable energy, education and health care.

At the same time, we need to create the conditions for sustainable growth.

That is why it is vital to empower workers—to enforce core worker rights in the global market—the right to organize and to bargain collectively to improve one's lot, the prohibitions against child labor and forced labor, the elimination of discrimination.

Empowering workers strengthens democracy. It is also vital to sustaining prosperity, to making markets work.

When the famed US labor leader, Walter Reuther, visited Japan in the 1960s, he saw that Japanese autoworkers were riding bicycles to work. "You can't build an automobile economy on bicycle wages," he warned the Japanese. But of course they could, by exporting their automobiles to the United States.

No limits of that export-led growth model are apparent. A vibrant economy requires

consumers—workers who capture a fair share of the profits that they produce. The struggle to do just that is taking place in offices and shop floors across the world. As President Clinton has said, global rules are crucial if we are to keep the global market from becoming a race to the bottom.

Finally, this debate can no longer be contained in closed rooms in luxurious hotels. It is already being waged on the streets, the shop floors and the computer screens across the world. As the cloistered negotiators of the Multilateral Agreement on Investment discovered, trade and investment agreements must gain public support if they are to go forward at all. Open covenants, openly arrived at is not simply a slogan—it is a growing reality.

We are entering a new era. We will either build a new internationalism that empowers workers, protects consumers and the environment, and fosters sustainable growth—or we will witness a harsh reaction as desperate peoples demand protection.

I urge of all you to join us in our effort to bend the forces of globalization so they help workers everywhere build a better future.

MR. MARX, MEET MR. FRIEDMAN

(By E.J. Dionne Jr.)

PARIS—A characteristic of politics in most of the well-off democracies is that we know far better what we don't want than what we do.

The trends in most democratic countries are toward moderate governments and away from pure free-market parties. Electorates don't fully trust the global economy and want protection from its fluctuations. But to win elections, parties of the left promising those protections have to prove they're comfortable with the market and accept its disciplines.

France's Socialist Prime Minister Lionel Jospin caught the mood when he declared that he favored a "market economy" but opposed a "market society." We want capitalism, but want it tempered by other values—equity, community and compassion, for starters.

If you want to know how much has changed, consider these comments from Robert Hue, the national secretary of the once hard-line French Communist Party. "The Communists are not adversaries of the market," he declared last week. "The Communists have broken with the statist vision of things." Imagine: Karl Marx dining with Milton Friedman.

The social philosopher Anthony Giddens explains this transformation in "The Third Way," his important recent book. "No one any longer has any alternatives to capitalism—the arguments that remain concern how far, and in what ways, capitalism should be governed and regulated."

"These arguments are certainly significant," he continues, "but they fall short of the more fundamental disagreements of the past." That may explain some of the listlessness of contemporary politics. Utopias and searing critiques of the status quo are exciting. But why should progressive parties pretend to have answers they don't, or attempt to build systems that can't work?

The Third Way idea is seductive because it seems to represent realism with a heart. But Giddens—the director of the London School of Economics who's thought of as British Prime Minister Tony Blair's favorite social philosopher—tries to show that the Third Way is more than a marketing slogan.

The core problem with contemporary conservatism, he says, is an inconsistency at the heart of its creed. Its "devotion to the free market on the one hand, and to the traditional family and nation on the other, is self-contradictory."

Why? "Individualism and choice are supposed to stop abruptly at the boundaries of the family and national identity, where tradition must stand intact. But nothing is more dissolving of tradition than the 'permanent revolution' of market forces."

Giddens is perceptive on the thorny question of risk vs. security. The standard account is that if government provides too much security, no one will want to take risks. But Giddens is alive to the need for certain social protections if what you desire is a risk-taking society.

To encourage citizens to be "responsible risk-takers," he writes, "people need protections when things go wrong" and "also the material and moral capabilities to move through major periods of transition in their lives." That's the reason every party in every country is talking about education.

The upshot is we shouldn't dismantle the welfare state, but rather reconstruct it into a "social investment state" to provide "resources for risk-taking." Giddens's welfare state would also cooperate extensively with community institutions that are independent of government.

As for the global economy, Giddens sees its expansion as removing more and more activity from the regulatory reach of individual nations. In what he calls "depoliticized global space," there are no rules establishing "rights and obligations." Figuring out what those are and whether they can be enforced across national boundaries is one of the central political problems of our time.

The strongest critique of the Third Way is that its careful balancing act sounds too good to be true. Center-left parties trying to calibrate market efficiencies against concerns for social justice are not working in some sanitized laboratory. In the politics of democracies, interests and passions intervene.

That was brought home in the recent battle between Germany's Social Democratic chancellor, the centrist Gerhard Schroeder, and his left-wing finance minister, Oskar Lafontaine. Lafontaine resigned, protesting that "the heart isn't traded on the stock market yet." But where Lafontaine saw a socially minded heart beating, German business saw a statist cancer growing.

The Paris daily *Le Monde* noted archly that it was pure "coincidence" that at the moment Lafontaine quit, Anthony Giddens was visiting Bonn to unveil the German edition of "The Third Way"—of which Schroeder is a public fan.

"The Third Way" is worth finding, and Giddens makes an honorable effort to draw us a map. But as the struggles of the new German government show, the road there is still under construction.

BUSINESS MUST TAKE LEAD TO WIN FAST TRACK

Steel tops Congress' trade agenda. But just beneath the surface remains fast track, the missing critical link in long-term U.S. trade policy.

Twice in the past two years, Congress refused to give broadened authority to the president to negotiate trade agreements. With a third try being readied, the challenge for the corporate community is to provide the leadership that will finally achieve it.

The push needs to come soon. As globalization quickens, opportunities for U.S. companies to sell their products increase. However, access to foreign markets must be guaranteed, a process fast track would facilitate. "If we don't get [fast track] this year, we're not going to get it until well after the presidential election," Rep. Jennifer Dunn (R-Wash.), a member of the Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee, said in an interview.

The implications of fast track's absence are beginning to be seen. This is the case in Latin America, a key market for U.S. exports. By not being able to move forward with a Latin American free-trade agreement, the United States runs the risk of being cut out as the European Union forges closer trading ties with Mercosur, the powerful southern cone trade group.

Winning fast track, however, will require a fundamental change in the way business deals with Capitol Hill and how it approaches the politics of trade. "You've got a lot of folks stuck in a rut now," said Dunn. The problem business faces is that the Republican-anchored coalition it is looking to to pass fast track hasn't worked effectively since the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement almost six years ago.

How does business get out of this rut and turn the fight for fast track into a winning game? Last December, this column suggested a counterintuitive trade strategy that looked center-left to offset growing Republican isolationism. Now is the time to apply it. With Congress so closely balanced, business can't afford to ignore the Democrats, including liberals, labor and the environmentalists.

Rep. Cal Dooley (Calif.), a staunch free-trade and leading pro-business Democrat, recognizes this as he pushes for a serious dialogue between business and labor and the environmentalists. Those groups have been fast track's toughest opponents. "The message I've been delivering to business is that you have to be providing the leadership and identifying the policies that address the environmental and labor issues that can broaden the base of support for fast track," Dooley told me.

Key business groups have started doing this but it needs to be done seriously in order to construct a new coalition. That coalition can be made up of Democrats and environmental, labor and internationalist Republicans. House Banking Committee Chairman Jim Leach (R-Iowa) suggested this approach a year ago as a way to break the deadlock over funding for the International Monetary Fund. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) has urged business and liberals to find ways to deal with each other on trade and other elements of their agendas.

Where do corporate CEOs fit into this new strategy? In several ways. First, they need to pledge their unwavering commitment to the effort—from start to finish—just as they do with company initiatives.

Next, they need to shape the public's perception of fast track as critical to the nation's economic growth and their personal well-being. This can only be done by leadership outside Washington that can soften the partisanship that hurt fast track previously. CEOs can do this, Dunn said, by "articulating much more in public and much more with their employees the benefits and importance of free trade."

Lastly, they need to provide the ongoing leadership of the fast-track, campaign. Usually, this is done by the White House with the support of outside groups. However, long-term, proactive leadership has not been the forte of this White House as demonstrated by the last minute, ad hoc—and unsuccessful—campaign it mounted for fast track in 1997.

Business needs to be pragmatic and go where the votes are if it is to win fast track. By doing that, business leaders will have a real shot at achieving a U.S. trade policy that is truly global.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JOE DIMAGGIO

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, last month the Nation lost a true American hero. I am deeply saddened that Joe DiMaggio, "the Yankee Clipper," passed away at the age of 84 in his hometown of Hollywood, Florida, on March 8, 1999. We mourn the loss of a man whose legacy will be remembered for years to come. Indeed, Joe DiMaggio has a long and storied list of athletic accomplishments, but he is also remembered for his service to the South Florida community and the Nation. Joe DiMaggio is a man who achieved greatness, and it was also the way in which he carried himself that was truly great.

Voted the "Greatest Living All-Time Baseball Player" by the Baseball Writers Association in 1969, Joe DiMaggio's impact was felt in the Major Leagues soon after his rookie season in 1936. After winning only one World Series in the seven years prior to his joining the team, the New York Yankees won four straight world championships. By the time he retired in 1951, Joltin' Joe DiMaggio's role in the dominance of the New York Yankees was undeniable: his leadership brought a total of ten pennants and nine world series to New York in the span of 13 major league seasons. Over his career, Joe DiMaggio would win three MVP awards, become the only major league player in major league history who has more than 300 home runs and fewer than 400 strikeouts, and be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1955.

Career statistics aside, Joe DiMaggio had perhaps one of the most remarkable years ever when he won the Most Valuable Player award in 1941. That year, like Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire did during the summer of 1998, Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams captivated the entire Nation with two spectacular individual performances. While Ted Williams would hit .406, DiMaggio would take center stage while hitting safely in 56 straight games—an amazing record which stands today.

Though one could talk about Joe DiMaggio's greatness based on baseball statistics alone, we must not forget the service that Joe DiMaggio performed for our nation during times of war. In 1943, Joltin' Joe swapped his Yankee paycheck for a \$50-a-month private's salary as he left baseball to serve as physical trainer for Army Air Force cadets. Finishing his term of service three years later, Joe DiMaggio had risen to the rank of sergeant and, in 1974, he was awarded the Silver Helmet award from AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam). Only three years after receiving this award, he would be further honored in a way that few are: he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Carter.

Mr. Speaker, Joe DiMaggio lived much of his life in private. Though he also performed much philanthropy work in private, he was very public about his affiliation with the Memorial Hospital which lies within my Congressional District in Hollywood, Florida. In 1992, the new children's wing of Memorial Hospital was christened the "Joe DiMaggio Children's

Hospital, at Memorial Regional Hospital" in recognition of his extensive support. Since 1992, DiMaggio helped raise more than \$4 million for the care of sick children there. For his charitable work, we all own the late Joe DiMaggio a debt of gratitude. I assure you that Hollywood and the surrounding areas will miss him greatly.

In summary, there was something special about Joe DiMaggio. He was unpretentious and proud, a man who carried himself with the utmost class and dignity. Joltin' Joe DiMaggio was truly a hero in an era when America was coming out of the Great Depression, and era when America needed someone to turn to for inspiration. It is with great sorrow that I praise him today, and hope that in some small way this statement can thank him for all his greatness, for his accomplishments both on the baseball field and off it as well.

EXPOSING RACISM

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, in my continuing efforts to document and expose racism in America, I submit the following articles into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PROSECUTOR: BLACK MAN'S MURDER INTENDED TO DRAW ATTENTION TO NEW HATE GROUP

(By Michael Graczyk)

JASPER, TX (AP).—The heinous dragging death of a black man last year was part of a plan to draw attention to a new white supremacist group being organized by his accused white killer, John William King, prosecutors say.

"I do believe he was trying to form his own personal hate group in Jasper, Texas," Jasper County District Attorney Guy James Gray said Tuesday after the first full day of testimony. "I believe we'll be able to establish that this killing was to promote his own personal agenda."

King, 24, an unemployed laborer and ex-convict, faces life in prison or death by injection if convicted of the June 7 murder of James Byrd Jr.

The 49-year-old East Texas man was chained to the back of a pickup truck and dragged for three miles before his body, minus a head, neck and arm, was left dumped on a road across from a black church and cemetery.

Gray, who said DNA evidence would be introduced today, has said he hopes to wrap up his side of the case by the end of the week.

Two other men, Lawrence Russell Brewer, 31, and Shawn Allen Berry, 23, are to be tried later on the same charges.

In his opening statement Tuesday to the jury of 11 whites and one black, Gray said physical evidence, racist tattoos all over King's body and letters written by King would tie him to Byrd's murder.

Correspondence seized by authorities from King's Jasper apartment the day after Byrd's death and entered into evidence late Tuesday included 22 pages of handwritten by-laws and a code of ethics for what King called the "Confederate Knights of America Texas Rebel Soldiers."

"Dear Student," King wrote. "Welcome to the Aryan Institute for Higher Learning . . . Welcome to the dream."

In one of the documents, he labels himself "Captain" of the organization. In another,

where he signs himself as "President," he describes his group as working for the "struggle of our white race" and complained of "thousands of organizations working for the interest of minorities."

"How many groups stand up for the cultural values and ideals of the white majority?" he asked. "We of the Confederate Knights of America are unapologetically committed to the interest, ideas and cultural value of the White Aryan race."

Prosecutors said other physical evidence includes a lighter engraved with Knight's prison nickname "Possum" and a Klu Klux Klan symbol of interlocking three K's found along the bloody route. Byrd's blood also was found on King's shoes, Gray said.

Tattoos over more than 65 percent of his body include a black man hanging from a tree, nazi swastikas and a Woody Woodpecker cartoon character wearing a Klan robe and hood.

Defense attorney Haden "Sonny" Cribbs, who declined an immediate opening statement, objected to the introduction of the written material and photos of King's tattoos, saying such items were protected by the Constitution as freedom of expression. State District Judge Joe Bob Golden overruled the objections.

Prosecutors began testimony by laying out the crime scene, with Sheriff Billy Rowles telling how he first thought he had a routine hit-and-run accident. But he said he was puzzled by the lack of parallel tire tracks that should have followed the trail of blood typically left by someone dragged under a vehicle.

When investigators found the lighter, "That's when we started having some bad thoughts," the sheriff added. "I knew somebody had been murdered because he had been black."

Other items from the crime scene included tools with the name "Berry" scratched into the surface. Authorities knew Berry was a mechanic and arrested him on outstanding traffic warrants. When he gave an affidavit that included information identifying King as having the nickname "Possum," "I know this country boy's in trouble," Rowles testified.

In love letters he sent from prison to Michele Chapman, a Jasper woman described by King as "my precious Aryan Princess," King used obscenities and vulgarities when referring to blacks and Mexicans. He bragged about what he said was \$3,000 worth of tattoo work he received for free all over his body from an inmate tattoo artist.

"White is right!!!" he wrote in one letter, signing it off: ". . . Take care and stay white and beautiful."

Prosecutors also showed jurors photographs of Byrd's remains and introduced into evidence tattered remnants of Byrd's clothing. Several members of Byrd's family began sobbing as the clothing was revealed.

BLACK MARINE BEATEN, PARALYZED BY WHITE MEN TO FACE ATTACKERS

(By Michelle Williams)

SAN DIEGO (AP).—Sitting in a wheelchair with only the slightest movement in his left hand, Lance Cpl. Carlos Colbert still has his voice to describe how five men savagely changed his life at a Memorial Day party.

The black Marine, who is paralyzed, today was to face the white men who drunkenly beat him, broke his neck and left him motionless on the ground in what prosecutors say was a racist attack.

Colbert was to tell them how his life has changed. He is 21. Jesse Lawson, 20; Trenton Solis, 18; Robert Rio, 23; Jed Jones, 21; and Steven Newark III, 18, pleaded guilty last month to felony assault and avoided potential life sentences at today's hearing.

Prosecutor Craig Rooten said Tuesday that Colbert wanted the case to go to trial, but understood the guilty pleas ensured jail time for his attackers.

"There were a lot of people involved and there was a lot of alcohol involved, making it a difficult case to sort out," Rooten said.

Colbert, of Forestville, MD, was one of just a few blacks who attended a party last May at the home of Tim Bullard, a fellow Camp Pendleton Marine. At least 100 people packed the small house at Santee, a rural community 20 miles northeast of San Diego.

When a fight broke out in the front yard, there were no streetlights to illuminate what was happening and most of the people were drunk, Rooten said. Police interviewed about 50 people over four months before making any arrests since few stories were alike.

One common denominator was that the attackers punched and kicked Colbert while shouting racial slurs and "white power," Rooten said.

Colbert's memory of the attack was that a fellow Marine went outside to help a woman who was hit by a "skinhead." When he heard the commotion, he went outside to see what was happening.

"Out of the corner of my eye I saw a guy coming toward me with brass knuckles," Colbert told The San Diego Union-Tribune. "I felt it on my neck. . . . He came up behind me and broke my neck. I fell flat on my face."

At a hearing last month, Judge Frederick Link asked Lawson if he beat Colbert because he was black and he tearfully said: "That is correct."

Lawson's admission means he faces two to 11 years in prison. The others face five years probation with one year in jail. They will receive credit for jail time already served. Solis has been free on \$250,000 bond for a few months, but the others have been jailed since their arrest in September.

The parents of some of the attackers recently went on a radio talk show, saying their sons were coerced into confessing that the crime was racially motivated, and it really was just a drunk brawl. A witness called in to say that such hatred isn't created by alcohol, it only enhances it.

Colbert spent several months at a Veteran's Administration hospital in Long Beach before moving to a Virginia hospital closer to his family's Maryland home. He was recently moved to a home modified for his wheelchair, Rooten said.

SETTLEMENT REACHED IN CALIFORNIA RACE-BASED ADMISSIONS CASE

(By Bob Egelko)

SAN FRANCISCO (AP).—City schools and the NAACP reached a last-minute settlement over race-based admissions on the same day a federal trial was to begin deciding the constitutionality of San Francisco's school desegregation program.

The program bars any school from having more than 45 percent of any one racial or ethnic group, a practice the families of three Chinese-American students alleged kept the youngsters out of their preferred schools.

U.S. District Judge William Orrick ordered details of Tuesday's agreement between the school district and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People kept confidential until a hearing today.

But participant's comments indicated that court-ordered limits on racial and ethnic groups at each school in the 63,000-student district would be repealed.

Daniel Girard, lawyer for the three Chinese-American students and their parents, who filed the lawsuit in 1994, said the agreement is "a balanced resolution" that achieves the plaintiffs' objectives.

"This is definitely worth the fight," said Charlene Loen, whose 14-year-old son, Patrick Wong, was denied admission to elite Lowell High School in 1994 because the school then required higher test scorers from Chinese American than other ethnic groups.

That policy has been changed, but the court order still has the effect of curbing Lowell's Chinese-American enrollment, the largest of any group. Wong, 18, now attends the University of California, Irvine.

The 1993 order, which resolved a 1978 discrimination suit by the NAACP contained a 45 percent ceiling on any racial or ethnic group at a school. The limit is 40 percent at alternative or "magnet" schools. Those include Lowell, which has an entrance exam and counts U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer and the late Gov. Pat Brown among its alumni.

A draft settlement would prohibit assigning students abased on race or ethnicity but would let the district consider their socioeconomic status, and Patrick Manshardt, a lawyer for the state of Board of Education who saw the draft but was not part of the negotiations.

The settlement comes at a time of increasing judicial hostility to race-based admissions. In November, a federal appeals court struck down race as an admissions factor at the prestigious Boston Latin School, a ruling the school board decided not to appeal.

The San Francisco settlement will not end desegregation efforts, insisted NAACP law-

yer Peter Cohn. He said the agreement would "continue to protect the educational rights of all children."

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[From the USA Today, February 23, 1999]
NEW AVENUES AIDING HATE GROUP NUMBERS
(By Laura Parker)

The number of hate groups operating in the United States increased again last year, spurred by the Internet, white power rock-'n'-roll music and the efforts of fringe groups to attract mainstream followers, according to a report by the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala.

For the first time, the Council of Conservative Citizens, which has drawn Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott and Rep. Bob Barr, R-Ga., as speakers at meetings, was listed as a hate group in the law center's annual survey of hate and paramilitary groups.

The report, to be issued Tuesday, says there were 537 hate groups operating in 1998, up from 474 groups in 1997. That includes the 33 chapters of the Council of Conservative Citizens, which claims 15,000 dues-paying members.

The council was listed as hate group after the law center published an exposé about the group last year. The CCC, according to the law center, has its roots in the old White Citizens Councils, organized to combat the 1954 Supreme Court ruling outlawing "separate but equal" schools. The organization has pushed national issues such as opposi-

tion to affirmative action, immigration and school busing.

"But its chief interest remains race," the center says in its report.

When the involvement of Lott and Barr became public last year, both men disavowed the council's views.

The number Ku Klux Klan organizations is also up from 127 chapters in 1997 to 163 chapters, and the number of Internet groups ballooned from 163 in 1997 to 254 last year, the report says.

Racist rock-'n'-roll music, by bands with names such as White Terror, is also widely available on the Internet.

"The organized hate movement in this country is quite clearly growing and has been for several years," says Mark Potok, the law center's spokesman.

But it is difficult to measure whether the rise in hate groups translates into a rise in hate crimes. The FBI has been unable to say whether more hate crimes are being committed or more are merely being reported.

The increase in hate groups also coincides with a robust economy. Normally, such activity declines in economic good times. But Potok says the booming economy is not making everyone rich, particularly blue-collar workers. Laborers who once made good wages in heavy industry find themselves in lower paying service-sector jobs, he says, and some are attracted to racist groups.